THE ROOK

WARREN MAGAZINE

DEC. 1981

ALL-NEW ILLUSTRATED HEROIC ADVENTURE

The ROOK™

NUMBER TWELVE

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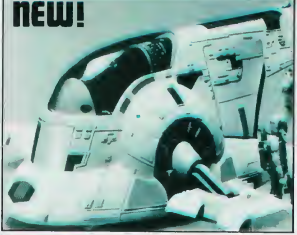
OUT OF THE RUINS OF THE DISTANT PAST COMES THE GOBLIN!

FEATURING: EAGLE! THE BAT! DAGGER! and THE PROTECTORS!

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

INCREDIBLE MODELS & SETS FROM THE MOST EXCITING MOVIE EVER!

SLAVE 1: BOBA FETT'S SPACESHIP



SLAVE I: An exciting replica of the avil Boba Fatt's ship! Highly detailed ship has movable ramp into tha cargo hold, adjustable seat for landing and flight positions, adjustabla wings that lock for cruisa controll Tha clicking, moving lasar cannons will protact Slava I from any pursuit ships. The craft will hold at laast thraa action figuras basida Boba when tha side panal is removad! A frozan Han Solo figurina is includad! This is a functional toy that requires no battarias! Action figura not included. #26299—$24.95

AT-AT WALKER

ALL-TERRAIN ARMORED-TRANSPORT: Highly detailad 8" tall raplica of tha deadly walkars! Tha legs and haad control room are moveable! #24256—$7.25

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

TURRET & PROBOT PLAY SET

TURRET AND PROBOT PLAYSET: Watch out Rebels! Probot is looking for you! You can relive the dramatic battle on the ice planet Hoth with this deluxe playset! You can eject tha Probot with the action lavar that you control! For addad thrills, thara's a raalistic Rebal Lasar Gun-Turrat. Action figures fit insida through tha opaning side door and into tha hatch on top. Turrat lasar cannon clicks as it turns! Intricately dataliad and colorful plastic Probot and lasar Turrat ara just what you naad to kindla your imagination and authanticate tha world of your Star Wars action figures! Durable plastic will last for years! Action figures sold separately! #26297—$15.95

YODA ACTION PLAY SET

NEW!

ENCOUNTER WITH YODA ON DAGOBAH: Beautifully moldad and authanticaliy dataliad, Yoda's bog homa is 10" in diamater, with lift away roof & figures of Yoda teaching the force to Luka Skywalker! #24256—$9.95

IMPERIAL ATTACK ON REBEL BASE ACTION SET

BATTLE ON ICE PLANET HOTH: Darth Vader's imperial troops attack the rebal stronghold in this 12"x18" action scana! Includad ara tarrain basa, thraa snap togathar attack walkars, an x-wing fighter, a scout walker, thraa snow spaadars and almost fifty figuras! #24257—$9.95

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The ROOK

THE ROOK: GOBLIN 4

A mysterious blue-skinned demon is running amok in the streets of New York City, enforcing its own peculiar moral code, killing anyone who breaks it! Such a one shouldn't be hard to track down, but this creature disappears like smoke! Restin Dane is forced to hurtle back in time to find the demon's mystical, forbidding secret!

THE BAT 23

One moment it was a placid, routine-ridden scientific laboratory plumbing the secrets of genetics...the next moment, chaos exploded and shattered the lives of those within in a shower of glass and dangerous chemicals! Out of the debris and deadly fumes rose a hell-beast so frightening to behold that it paralyzed the souls of men!

THE PROTECTORS 29

As Restin Dane watched his Time Machine sink into the ooze of a primeval swamp, lost to him forever...his heart sank with it! This fog-shrouded world was crawling with monstrous beasts and slimy, inscrutable, carnivorous plants! He was marooned forever in this time, this place! But Restin Dane hadn't counted on...The Protectors!

DAGGER 37

The times were cruel to a family man, but ripe for a man of adventure! There was no work, no money, and not enough food to go around. Such times broke weak men and corrupted the strong...and between the two, adventurers were needed! Adventurers like Dagger, who had proved in the War that he was willing to take any risk, any time!

EAGLE 49

Eagle was a Chief of the Crow, a mighty warrior, a great leader to his people, and an honorable man! He did not like these white men crossing his lands, killing his stock...and then looking on him with sneering eyes! These wasteful, cowardly men actually felt superior to the Red Man! But Eagle might find a use for them yet!

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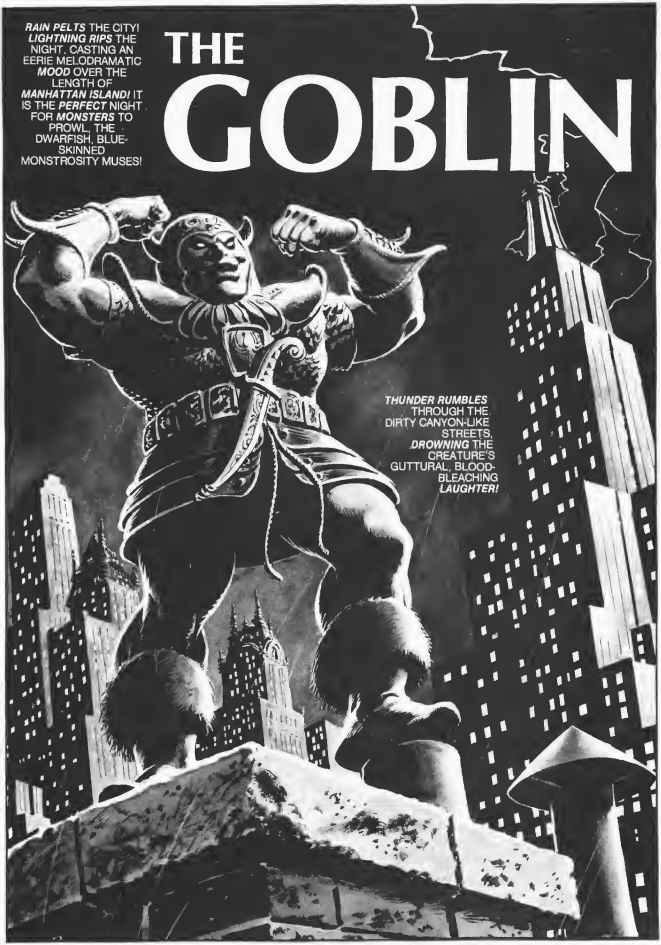
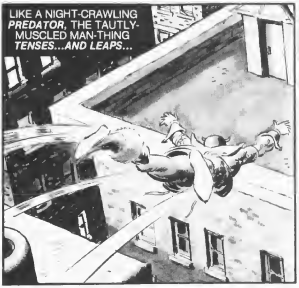
THE GOBLIN

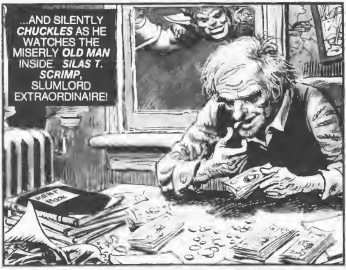


Author: **BILL DuBAY**/Illustrator: **LEE ELIAS**


LIKE A NIGHT-CRAWLING *PREDATOR*, THE TAUTLY-MUSCLED MAN-THING *TENSES...AND LEAPS...*

...HIS STEEL-TENSILED FINGERS *CRUSHING HANDHOLDS* INTO THE SIDE OF A CRUMBLING *BROWNSTONE!*

QUICKLY...*QUIETLY*, HE FINDS THE WINDOW HE *WANTS...*


...AND SILENTLY *CHUCKLES* AS HE WATCHES THE MISERLY *OLD MAN* INSIDE *SILAS T. SCRIMP*, SLUMLORD EXTRAORDINAIRE!

STILL AS A SLEEPING CHURCH-MOUSE, THE GRIMACING OGRE SUMMONS *MYSTIC FORCES* BEYOND HUMAN COMPREHEN-SION...

...CREATING *LIFE*, WHERE MOMENTS BEFORE, THERE WAS LITTLE MORE THAN *THIN AIR!*

THE TINY, SMIRKING *HELL-BEAST GNASHES ITS FANGS...*
...ITS SINISTER *CACKLE* AN *ARIA* OF *TERROR* THREE OCTAVES HIGHER THAN THAT OF ITS *CREATOR!*

THE TWO NEED *NO WORDS* TO *COMMUNICATE!*

EACH *KNOWS* WHAT MUST BE *DONE!*

WITH AN *INTELLIGENCE* AND *STEALTH* UNIQUELY ITS *OWN*, THE PYGMEAN *HELL-HOUND SLITHERS* THROUGH THE WINDOW...

...MAKING JUST ENOUGH *NOISE* TO *ATTRACT* THE OLD MAN'S *ATTENTION!*
HUH–!?
GRRRR!

THE *KIND* OF SOUNDS, IT KNOWS, *NO ONE* WANTS TO HEAR ON A GLOOMY *RAINSWEPT NIGHT* LIKE *THIS!*
ROWLLLLLL!
N-NOO! NOOOOO! N-NOT ...Y-YOU!?

QUICK AS A *DARTING SHADOW*, THE TINY TERROR *SCAMPERS* ACROSS THE FLOOR, *AFTER* THE TERRIFIED MAN.
P-PLEASE ...NOOO!

AAIEE!
...*LUNGING* FOR HIS *LEG*, *SHREDDING* HIS PANTS AS IT STRIVES, *DESPERATELY*, TO MIMICK THE *FEROCITY* OF A *RABID DOG!*

I... I *WON'T* DO IT *AGAIN!* I... I *PROMISE!*
GRRRRR
IT'S *ALL* THE TINY TERROR CAN *DO* TO KEEP FROM *BURSTING* INTO *LAUGHTER*, AS THE OLD MAN, CLUTCHING *FISTFUL* OF HIS PRECIOUS *MONEY*, *FALLS*, AND *WHIMPERS* FOR HIS MISERABLE *LIFE!*

THE STAGE IS *SET*, THE MOMENT IS *RIGHT*, THE DEMONIC *BLUE OGRE* KNOWS... ! HE *SMIRKS* AT HIS OWN SENSE OF THE *DRAMATIC*, AS HE *BURSTS* THROUGH THE FILTH-CRUSTED *WINDOW*, READY TO GIVE THE *PERFORMANCE* OF A *LIFETIME!*
KE-RASH!

HIS *VOICE*, LIKE *SANDPAPER* SCRAPING AGAINST *RUSTY METAL*, SENDS WARM PUDDLES OF *FEAR TRICKLING* THROUGH THE OLD MAN'S *UNDERGARMENTS!*
N-NOOO! NOT YOU, *TOO!* *SOB!*
GOBLIN NOT *HAPPY* WITH YOU, SCRIMP!

YOU MAKE PEOPLE PAY *MUCH* FOR *RATS* AND *FLEAS!*
N-NO!

NO! THEY DON'T PAY ME *ANYTHING* FOR THE *RATS* AND *F-FL--I* I...I MEAN... I...I CAN'T HELP THE *RATS!* I... I ONLY TAKE THE *MONEY* TO ...TO...TO BUY *RAT TRAPS! YEAH!*
GRRRRR!
BUT...BUT *I* DON'T *NEED* IT! I'LL *BUILD* THE TRAPS! *HERE! YOU* CAN HAVE IT *ALL!*

GOBLIN NOT *LIKE MONEY!* MONEY *BAD!* GOBLIN LIKE ONLY ...*FOOD! HMMM!* MAYBE GOBLIN MAKE NICE *LANDLORD STEW! FEED* HUNGRY PEOPLE...AND *PFFFT*...NO MORE *LANDLORD!*
GOBLIN KILL *TWO PROBLEMS* WITH *ONE SLICE!*
*L-LANDLORD ST-ST-STEW?! *GULP!**
L-LOOK... *GOBLIN...BUDDY!* WE CAN WORK THIS *OUT!* I...I'LL GIVE THE MONEY *BACK* TO THE TENANTS! THEY ...THEY CAN *BUY* FOOD! AND...AND I WON'T *EVER* CHARGE THEM *AGAIN!*

SEEMS *GOBLIN* HEAR *THAT BEFORE!*
NO! *STEW* SOUND *BETTER!*

BUT...BUT *THIS* TIME... I *MEAN* IT!
LOOK! I...I'M *GIVING* THE MONEY *BACK! SEE!*
ATTENTION! ATTENTION, EVERYONE! REBATES! COME AND GET YOUR *REBATES!*

HAHAHAHA!
SNICKER! SNIGGER!

WHAT A *MAROON!*
ONE OF THESE DAYS THAT *HONKEY SUCKAH'S* GONNA *SEE* RIGHT *THROUGH* US, WART!

TILL *THEN*, THOUGH, WE'RE GONNA *MILK* HIM FOR *ALL* HE'S *WORTH!*

C'MON... TIME FOR *YOU* TO GO BACK TO *NEVER-NEVER LAND!*

I'LL *SEE* YOU IN MY *DREAMS!*
SPLOOP!

BETTER MAKE *SURE* THAT OLD MAN *SCRIMP KEEPS* HIS *PROMISE!*

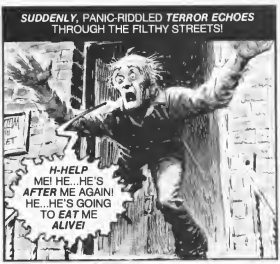
I GOTTA *ADMIT...* SINCE I STARTED THIS *GOBLIN* GIG, I NEVER HAD *NO IDEA* THAT LIVIN' IN THE *SLUMS* COULD BE SO MUCH *FUN!*

H-HERE, OLD WOMAN! I...I MADE A *DRASTIC MISTAKE-!*
JUST *LOOK* AT HIM ...*SHAKIN'* LIKE A BOWERY *JUNKIE* ...PRACTICALLY *FORCIN'* OL' *MS. SNIFTER* TO TAKE HER *MONEY BACK!*

MAYBE I SHOULD LET HIM *KNOW* HOW *HAPPY* HE'S MADE ME!
WINK
I... I-I *URK!*

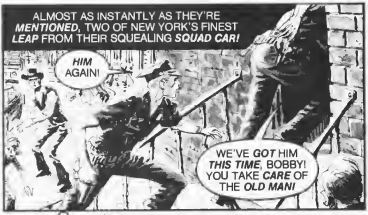
T-TAKE IT, OLD WOMAN! TAKE IT *ALL!* TAKE *EVERYTHING!* I... I...I JUST WANNA GET THE HELL *OUTTA* HERE!
WELL...ISN'T THAT *NICE!?* AN' HERE I THOUGHT *MR. SCRIMP* WAS SUCH A *MISERLY* OLD TURD!

The ROOK
A STIFF, AUTUMN BREEZE BLOWS THE STORM CLOUDS INTO THE BLUSTERY ATLANTIC! THE THUNDER AND LIGHTNING FADE INTO THE NIGHT...AND THE RAINSWEPT STREETS COME ALMOST INSTANTLY ALIVE WITH A THRONGING MULTITUDE OF NEW YORK NIGHT PEOPLE!
AMONG THE BRIGHTLY-PAINTED WOMEN AND RESPLENDANTLY-PLUMAGED YOUTHS, ARE TWO RATHER DRAB BUT NO LESS INTERESTINGLY CLAD INDIVIDUALS...ON A MUCH-NEEDED VACATION TO THE BIG, SEEDY APPLE... BISHOP DANE, AND HIS TIME-TRAVELING GRANDSON...THE ROOK!
YOU LISTEN T'ME, BOY! EITHER YOU MAKE UP YOUR MIND T'FORGET KATE McCALL* AND START HAVIN' YOURSELF SOME FUN...OR AH'M GONNA EMBED M'SIZE NINES SMACK IN YER PUCKERIN' HEMORRHOIDS!
OOOEEE! GIT A LOOKIT THAT! EITHER THEY'S DOIN' A REMAKE'A MIDNIGHT COWBOY RIGHT HERE IN HARLEM...
...OR THEY DONE LET BUTCH AND THE KID OUTTA BELLEVUE!
EITHER WAY, SOMEBODY OUGHTA TELL THEM DUDES 'BOUT NEW YORK'S NEW GUN LAW...'FORE THE MAN DO!
*BISHOP IS REFERRING TO LAST ISSUE'S EPIC ROOK ADVENTURE, WHEREIN RESTIN LEARNED THAT HIS LONG-TIME LOVE, KATIE, WAS DESTINED TO BECOME HIS OWN GREAT GREAT GRANDMOTHER!


SUDDENLY, PANIC-RIDDLED TERROR ECHOES THROUGH THE FILTHY STREETS!
H-HELP ME! HE...HE'S AFTER ME AGAIN! HE...HE'S GOING TO EAT ME ALIVE!

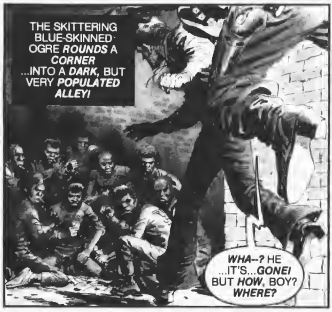
LOOK! UP THERE!
MY GOD! WHAT... WHAT IS IT?
LAWD, BOY! I... I DON'T BELIEVE WHAT I'M SEEIN'!

HAHAHAHA!
WHAT IS THAT THING?
IT... IT'S SOME KIND OF MONSTER!
SOMEBODY GET THE POLICE!

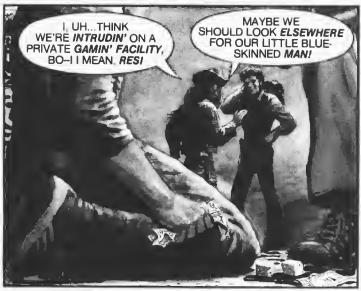

ALMOST AS INSTANTLY AS THEY'RE MENTIONED, TWO OF NEW YORK'S FINEST LEAP FROM THEIR SQUEALING SQUAD CAR!
HIM AGAIN!
WE'VE GOT HIM THIS TIME, BOBBY! YOU TAKE CARE OF THE OLD MAN!

HE...HE'S AFTER ME! HE...HE WON'T LEAVE ME BEI EVERYWHERE I GO ...HE'S THERE!
TAKE IT EASY, OLD TIMER!
THAT THING... IT'S SCRAMBLING DOWN A FIRE ESCAPE!

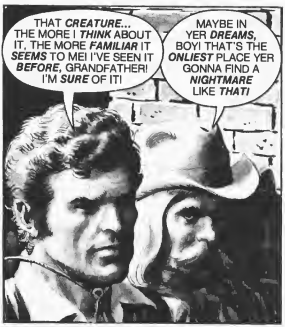
COME ON, GRANDFATHER! LET'S GIVE THE OFFICERS A HAND!
YAHOOO! I'M WITH YOU, BOY!
AT LAST! A CHANCE T'DO SOME SERIOUS BLOODLETTIN'!

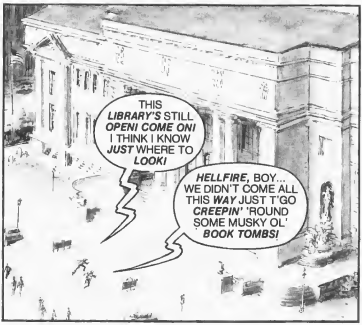

THE SKITTERING BLUE-SKINNED OGRE ROUNDS A CORNER ...INTO A DARK, BUT VERY POPULATED ALLEY!
WHA--? HE ...IT'S...GONE! BUT HOW, BOY? WHERE?

YOU, ER... GENTLEMEN DIDN'T HAPPEN TO SEE AN ODD LITTLE BLUE-SKINNED DWARF RUN BY HERE A MOMENT AGO?
SAY WHAT, SUCKAH?


I, UH... THINK WE'RE INTRUDIN' ON A PRIVATE GAMIN' FACILITY, BO--I MEAN, RES!
MAYBE WE SHOULD LOOK ELSEWHERE FOR OUR LITTLE BLUE-SKINNED MAN!

BUT...WE SAW HIM RUN INTO THAT ALLEY, GRANDFATHER! THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD HAVE GOTTEN AWAY FROM US!
DON'T BET ON IT, COWBOY! WHERE THERE'S A WILL AND A LITTLE MAGIC...THERE'S ALWAYS A WAY!


THAT CREATURE... THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, THE MORE FAMILIAR IT SEEMS TO MEI I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE, GRANDFATHER! I'M SURE OF IT!
MAYBE IN YER DREAMS, BOY! THAT'S THE ONLIEST PLACE YER GONNA FIND A NIGHTMARE LIKE THAT!


THIS LIBRARY'S STILL OPEN! COME ON! I THINK I KNOW JUST WHERE TO LOOK!
HELLFIRE, BOY... WE DIDN'T COME ALL THIS WAY JUST T'GO CREEPIN' 'ROUND SOME MUSKY OL' BOOK TOMBS!

AN HOUR OR SO LATER, BISHOP DOZES IN THE DARK, NEARLY DESERTED REFERENCE SECTION AS RESTIN POURS OVER HEAVY, LONG-FORGOTTEN VOLUMES!
OLD MAN! I'VE FOUND IT!
H-HUH!? W-WHAA--?

HERE! IN THIS BOOK ON THE HISTORY OF NEW YORK!
I REMEMBER RUNNING ACROSS IT WAY BACK IN MY COLLEGE DAYS! THAT'S WHY THAT BLUE-SKINNED DWARF LOOKED SO FAMILIAR!

WHAT'RE YOU SAYIN' BOY...THAT GIBBERIN' LITTLE HEATHEN'S BEEN RUNNIN' 'ROUND THE FILTH-STREWN STREETS'A THIS MISERABLE CITY SINCE TH'PREHISTORIC DAYS O'YER YOUTH?
LONGER THAN THAT, OLD MAN! LOOK CLOSER!

THIS IS A PHOTOGRAPH OF AN EVENT THAT TOOK PLACE MORE THAN SIXTY-FIVE YEARS AGO...
...THE MYSTERIOUS, DOCUMENTED APPEARANCE OF A FOUR-FOOT TALL, BLUE-SKINNED HUMANOID, WHO ASSAULTED A SQUAD OF NEW YORK POLICE OFFICERS... THEN DISAPPEARED... UNTIL TONIGHT!
I'LL BE DIPPED IN PICKLED POSSUM LEAVIN'S! I FEEL A TIME TRIP COMIN' ON!

I CAN'T THINK OF A BETTER WAY TO GET TO THE HEART OF THIS MYSTERY! COME ON, Y'OLD SLUG!
THAT'S THE RESTIN I KNOW! A GOOD OL' FASHIONED TIME TRIP IS WHAT HE NEEDS T'HELP HIM GET HIS MIND OFF'N KATIE!

SOME TIME *LATER*, BACK IN THEIR *HOTEL ROOM* ...AFTER THE TIME MASTER HAS PLACED A LONG-DISTANCE *CALL* TO HIS *CASTLE* IN *ARIZONA...!*

HERE COMES YOUR *DAUGHTER* WITH *TH' TIME SKIPPER*, BOY!

PERFECT THREE-POINT LANDIN', CHILE! COULDN'T'A DONE *BETTER M'SELF!*

FATHER... GRANDFATHER... I HOPE NOTHING'S *WRONG!*

EVERYTHING'S *FINE*, HONEY! WE JUST NEED THE *TIME CASTLE!* IT WAS QUICKER FOR *YOU* TO BRING IT *HERE* THAN FOR *US* TO FLY ALL THE WAY *HOME!*

YOUR *GRANDFATHER* AND I ARE GOING BACK TO THE YEAR *1917*, TO SEE IF WE CAN *FIND OUT* ANY-THING ABOUT THIS MYSTERIOUS BLUE-SKINNED *DWARF!*

THE *ONE* AND *ONLY* TIME HE WAS *SEEN* WAS ON *AUGUST 12th* OF THAT YEAR ...WHEN HE *ATTACKED* THESE *POLICE!*

WHY THE *SUDDEN INTEREST* IN A *SIX-DECADES* OLD *MYSTERY*, FATHER?

BECAUSE THE *SAME* CREATURE ...OR ONE *IDENTICAL TO* IT, HAS BEEN *SEEN* RUNNING THROUGH THE STREETS OF *MODERN-DAY* NEW YORK!

OH, FATHER... ARE YOU *SURE?*

GAL...WE'S THE ONES WHAT'S *SEEN* IT!

NOW YOU *STAY HERE* AN' HOLD DOWN *TH'HOTEL* WHILST ME'AN YER *PAP* TRY *T'UNRAVEL* THIS *PERPLEXIN' ENIGMA!*

THE METAL DOOR OF THE *TIME CASTLE* SLAMS *SHUT*, AND THE CENTURIES-SPANNING CRAFT SLOWLY BEGINS TO *SPIN* UPON ITS STATIONARY *BASE* ...HUMMING *MELODICALLY* BEFORE WINKING INTO THE *STREAMS* OF *TIME...!*

HOLD DOWN THE *HOTEL? HA!*

GRANDFATHER HAS SUCH *OLD-FASHIONED* IDEAS ABOUT *WOMEN!* HE'D LIKE TO SEE US *ALL* STAY AT *HOME*, LOOK *PRETTY*, AND KEEP OUR FLAPPING *MOUTHS* SHUT!

BUT *I'M* THE DAUGHTER OF *RESTIN DANE!* AND I'M TOO MUCH *LIKE* MY *FATHER* TO BE SITTING AROUND *HERE* WHILE THEY HAVE ALL THE *FUN!*

FATHER SAID THAT *GOBLIN-THING* IS *LOOSE* IN NEW YORK *NOW!* MAYBE *I'LL* JUST GO OUT AND *SEE* FOR *MYSELF!*

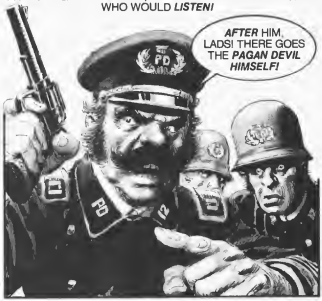
IN THE ***1880'S***, THAT AREA OF ***NEW YORK*** KNOWN AS ***HARLEM*** WAS A FASHIONABLE ***RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT*** CATERING PRIMARILY TO THE NEWLY-MONEYED ***CAPTAINS*** OF ***COMMERCE!*** BY THE BEGINNING OF THE GREAT ***WORLD WAR,*** THE ONCE ELEGANT NEIGHBORHOODS HAD ***DETERIORATED*** INTO A ***GHETTO*** FOR ***BLACKS!***

ONE OF THE FEW ***WHITES STILL*** TO BE FOUND IN THE HARLEM COMMUNITY, WAS ***PHINNEAS T. SMUDGE,*** FOUNDER OF THE CONTROVERSIAL ***CHURCH*** OF ***LIVING NECROMANCY!***

THERE WERE ***THOSE*** WHO BELIEVED ***SMUDGE*** AND HIS FOLLOWERS TO BE ***DEVIL WORSHIPERS...WITCHES!*** ONE UNSCRUPULOUS ***POLICE CAPTAIN PLAYED*** UPON THOSE BELIEFS WHEN HIS ONLY ***DAUGHTER*** JOINED THE ***'UNGODLY COVEN'*** AGAINST HIS WISHES!

THOUGH ***CAPTAIN BRYAN O'CONNOR KNEW*** HIS ALLEGATIONS WERE ***FALSE***, WHAT HE ***DIDN'T*** REALIZE WAS THAT THE NECROMANTIC POWERS OF ***PHINNEAS SMUDGE*** WERE QUITE ***GENUINE INDEED!***

A FORMER ***SATANIST, SMUDGE*** WAS STRIVING ***DESPERATELY*** TO ***ATONE*** FOR THE SINS OF HIS YOUTH, BY PREACHING ***ETERNAL LIFE, PEACE*** AND ***HOPE*** TO ANYONE WHO WOULD ***LISTEN!***



ON *AUGUST 12th, 1917*, IN THE *BASEMENT CHURCH* OF HIS OWN HARLEM BROWNSTONE, PHINNEAS SMUDGE *USED* HIS POWERS FOR THE *FINAL TIME!*

IN *HERE*, BOYO! I SAW HI--!

WHAA--?

BLESSED MOTHER *PRESERVE* US!

GRRRR!

NO ONE WHO *SAW* IT WAS QUITE *SURE* FROM *WHERE* THE GIBBERING TERROR HAD *COME!* ONE MOMENT *SMUDGE HIMSELF* HAD DISAPPEARED BEHIND HIS CURTAINED ALTAR! THE *NEXT*...A BLOOD-LUSTING *MONSTROSITY* WAS *LEAPING* FROM THE *SAME* PARTITION *GROWLING* LIKE AN ENRAGED *ANIMAL* AS IT TORE INTO THE OFFICERS WITH A HORRIBLE, HELLISH *FEROCITY!*

N-NOOOO! NOOOOO!

ROWWWWWLLL!

ONLY *O'CONNOR FAILED* TO SEE THE PALE, BLUE-FLESHED *FIEND*...SO BUSY WAS HE *CLUBBING* THE *LIFE* FROM THE *'HATEFUL SATANISTS!'*

DIE, YOU MISERABLE OLD BITCH! *DIE!*

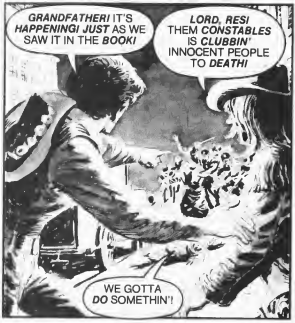
KRAAK

WHEN *FINALLY* HE *DID* SEE THE TERRIBLE TERROR SLOWLY STALKING *TOWARD* HIM, IT'S SAID THE CAPTAIN TURNED *SICKLY WHITE* WITH *FEAR!*

W-WHAT THE *HELL? ST-STOP* THAT THING! *K-KILL* IT!

YET, NO MERE *HUMAN* WAS A MATCH FOR THE HELL-BORN *DEMON!*
WITH SINGLE-MINDED *RESOLVE*, IT ADVANCED SLOWLY *FORWARD*...LETTING *NOTHING*...*NO ONE* STAND IN ITS *WAY* AS IT *CAME* FOR THE HATED *LAWMAN!*
STOP IT, I SAY! *KILL* THE BLOODY HELLION!
PD
WITHIN *MOMENTS*, THE BASEMENT-CHURCH BECAME A VERITABLE *SLAUGHTER-HOUSE* AS *POLICE* AND *CULTISTS* ALIKE *STAMPEDED* FOR THE ONLY *EXIT*...*CRUSHING* ONE ANOTHER IN THEIR MAD ATTEMPT TO *ESCAPE* THE SAVAGERY OF THE DIMINUTIVE INHUMAN *NIGHTMARE-BEAST!*

O'CONNOR WAS ONE OF THE FIRST TO REACH THE RELATIVE SAFETY OF THE STREET, INSTANTLY SCREAMING FOR HIS MEN TO "STOP THE ESCAPING WITCHES BEFORE THEY RAN RAMPANT THROUGHOUT AN UNSUSPECTING CITY!"
DAMN YOU! DON'T LET THE WITCHES ESCAPE!
POLI


GRANDFATHER! IT'S HAPPENING! JUST AS WE SAW IT IN THE BOOK!
LORD, RES! THEM CONSTABLES IS CLUBBIN' INNOCENT PEOPLE TO DEATH!
WE GOTTA DO SOMETHIN'!

BEFORE THE TIME TRAVELLERS COULD ACT, A WINDOW EXPLODED ABOVE THEIR HEADS ...AND A BLUISH BLUR FELL TO THE PAVEMENT!
RES! IT'S...THE MONSTER!

KILL THEM! KILL THE BASTARDS!
BLAM!

THOSE WHO SAW THE CREATURE THAT DAY, SAY THAT ITS FEATURES WERE THOSE OF SATAN HIMSELF! AS IT TURNED ON THE CAPTAIN, ITS EYES RAGED WITH THE AWESOME FEROCITY OF THE FIRES OF HELL!
ST-STAY AWAY FROM ME, DAMN YOU!

I... I SAID ...STAY AWAY!
BAM!

NOOOOOOOOO!
K-KRAAAK!
N-NOOOOOO!
OH GOD!
LORD HELP US!
HE... HE'S--!
BOY! THAT THING--! IT'S ESCAPIN'!
CAPTAIN!
CAPTAIN O'CONNOR!
LET IT GO, OLD MAN! WE'VE GOT TO HELP THAT POOR OFFICER!
OH MY GOD! *GAG!*
H-HIS BRAINS... *CHOKE!* THEY... THEY'RE ALL OVER THE WALL!
HE'S BEYOND OUR HELP, BOY! BUT WE CAN STILL STOP THAT MURDERIN' DEVIL-THING 'FORE HE KILLS AGAIN!
HOW, OLD MAN? HE'S DISAPPEARED... JUST LIKE BACK IN THAT ALLEY!

HE MIGHT'A... BUT HIS TRAIL SURE AS HELL DIDN'T!
BLOOD!

THE POLICE CAPTAIN HIT HIM GOOD! THAT LITTLE RUNAGATE'S BLEEDIN' LIKE A SIEVE!

LOOKY HERE! HAND HOLDS... CHEWED RIGHT INTO THE WALL!
GOOD GOD! THAT...DWARF ...DID THIS?

THERE'S BLOOD LEADIN' ALL THE WAY UP T'THAT BALCONY!
IT'S THE SAME BUILDIN' HE CAME OUTTA! MY GUESS IS THAT'S WHERE HE'S HIDIN' HISSELF!

THEN COME ON, OLD MAN!
BE CAREFUL, BOY! THAT LITTLE BLUE KILLER IS DANGEROUS!

WE BEST TAKE HIM BY SURPRISE!

FREEZE, YOU YELLER DOG!

WHAA--?
P-PLEASE... H-HELP ME...!

YOU...YOU'VE BEEN SHOT! JUST LIKE THE DWARF!
THERE... THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME--!

I...I'M DYING! T-TOO OLD TO...SURVIVE...WOUND LIKE THIS!

M-MY BOOK...! P-PLEASE...DON'T LET THEM TAKE...MY BOOK! T-TOO DANGEROUS!
Y-YOU MUST DESTROY IT! PLEASE!

TAKE IT EASY, OLD TIMER! YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT...ONCE WE STOP THE BLEEDING!
N-NO...! THE...THE ...BOOK!

RES! BOY! LOOKIT THIS! IT'S SOME KIND'A SATANIC BIBLE! IT TELLS HOW A MAN CAN TURN HISSELF INTO THAT... DEMON THING!

P..PLEASE...! D-DESTROY IT... BEFORE IT...DESTROYS YOU... AS IT HAS...ME!

THEN IT'S TRUE! YOU CAN TRANSFORM YOURSELF INTO THAT ...CREATURE!?
IT... IT'S WRONG ...EVIL! IT IT-! AAAGH!
OLD MAN!

HE'S GONE, GRAND-FATHER!
JUST AN...OLD MAN...KILLED BY THOSE MURDERING POLICE OUTSIDE!

YOU'LL BE HAVIN' A DIFFICULT TIME PROVIN' THAT IN A COURT'A'LAW, LAD...!
AFTER ALL...WHO'S GONNA BELIEVE A MURDERIN' DEVIL WORSHIPER?
TO BE CONTINUED!

THE BAT

THE *DRIZZLE* WAS SO *LIGHT* AS TO BE ALMOST *IMPERCEPTIBLE!* YET, THE TINY DROPLETS *BOMBARDED* THE HYPER-SENSES OF THE BLIND, LEATHERN-WINGED *MONSTROSITY!*

IT COULD FEEL THE *WARMTH* OF THE *CITY PULSING* WITH A BILLION SCREAMING *VOLTS* OF *ELECTRICAL CURRENT*...OF CONCRETE CANYONS *CRAWLING* WITH THE WARM-BLOODED *PARASITES* AS THEY SCURRIED *IN* AND *OUT* OF THEIR CURIOUS, *TOWERING CANYONS!*

A *THOUSAND* CONFUSING, CONFLICTING *SOUNDS PELTED* ITS EVERY NERVE, CONFUSING, *FRIGHTENING* THE DULL-WITTED ABOMINATION EVEN MORE...UNTIL IT *WAILED* IN TERROR-LADEN *FRUSTRATION* ...EMITTING A HIGH-PITCHED, BITING *CRY* THAT ONLY ITS OWN HIDEOUS *EARS* COULD PERCEIVE!

Author: BILL DuBAY/Illustrator: NESTOR REDONDO

AND THEN, ITS KEEN SENSES DETECTED SOMETHING *MORE!* AMID THE TANGLE OF CHAOTIC SOUNDS. IT SENSED *SOMETHING...SOMEONE...FAMILIAR!* AND THE *MEMORY* THAT HAD BEEN *CLOUDED* BY HARSH ANIMAL *INSTINCTS* MOMENTARILY BEGAN TO EAT ITS WAY THROUGH THE QUAGMIRE OF *MENTAL HAZE!*
IT REMEMBERED THE HARSH BRUTAL *GREED* OF THE *MAN!* BUT *MORE* ...IT RECALLED THE SOFT, *GENTLE* SOUNDS, MADE BY THE *WOMAN!*
AND, FOR THE *MOMENT* AT LEAST, IT REALIZED *WHY* ITS INSTINCTS HAD *BROUGHT* IT *HERE!*
THE *MEMORIES* CAME *CRASHING* BACK! *OLD* MEMORIES SO FULL OF *HURT* THAT THEY MADE THE CREATURE'S ANIMAL NATURE WANT TO *HOWL* IN ANGUISH!
DAMNIT, HAIGHT! BECAUSE OF YOUR *INEPTITUDE,* WE'RE LOSING A *FORTUNE!*
BUT, *NOW*...IT MUST *NOT* CRY OUT! FOR *NOW,* ITS TORTURED BRAIN WAS MORE THAT OF A...*MAN!* IF ITS *ANIMAL, PRIMAL* INSTINCTS WERE GIVEN SWAY NOW ...THE *MEMORIES* MIGHT *VANISH* FOREVER!
GENETIC, BIOGENE, AND A HUNDRED *OTHER* GENE SPLICING CONCERNS ARE *RUSHING* TO THE MARKET WITH A *DOZEN* DIFFERENT BY-PRODUCTS OF LABORATORY-CREATED *MICRO-ORGANISMS*...FROM CANCER CURING *INTERFERON* TO OIL-EATING *MICROBES...*
LISTEN, STEIN...*WE* WANT RESULTS, *TOO!* BUT THE SCIENCE OF *GENETIC ENGINEERING* IS STILL IN ITS *INFANCY!*
WE'RE DEALING WITH THE *CREATION* OF ENTIRE NEW *LIFE FORMS!* WE HAVE TO TAKE *PRECAUTIONS* OR WE COULD END UP WITH A *BIOLOGICAL ABOMINATION* CAPABLE OF *DESTROYING* THE *WORLD!*
...WHILE *WE* SIT AROUND *RESEARCHING* OURSELVES INTO *BANKRUPTCY!*
DAMNIT! I WON'T *STAND* FOR IT! EITHER YOU GIVE ME *RESULTS*... RESULTS THAT'LL BRING IN A TANGIBLE *PROFIT*... OR BY GOD, I'LL HIRE SOMEBODY WHO *WILL!*
I'M SICK TO *DEATH* OF YOUR FANCIFUL TALES OF *FRANKENSTEIN'S MONSTER* EMERGING FROM A *TEST TUBE!*
YOU GIVE ME A *PRODUCT* I CAN *MARKET,* OR I'LL *SHUT DOWN* THIS *LAB*... AND MAKE CERTAIN *NEITHER* OF YOU *EVER* WORK IN THIS FIELD *AGAIN!*
P-PLEASE... MR. STEIN--!

THE MEMORIES ***GUSHED NON-STOP!*** THE CREATURE ***REMEMBERED*** ...THE ***SCIENTIST***...THE ***MAN*** RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS ***BEING***...I ***JOHN HAIGHT!*** A ***GOOD*** MAN! A ***CONSCIENTIOUS*** MAN...TRYING HARD TO ***TEMPER*** THIS NEW AND UNEASY ***ALLIANCE*** BETWEEN ***BIG BUSINESS*** AND ***EMERGING SCIENCE!***

HAIGHT...NOT ***HATEFUL*** AT ***ALL***...BUT A ***LOVING,*** CARING ***FATHER***...TO THE SON HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR...***DEFORMING!***

HAVE A ***NICE DAY,*** DADDY!

YOU ***TOO,*** BILLY!

LIKE THE ***CREATURE,*** HE LIVED WITH A ***TORTURED SOUL,*** WONDERING IF THE WORLD HE WAS HELPING TO ***RESHAPE*** WOULD BE A ***BETTER*** PLACE...OR AN UTTER, DESOLATE...***HELL!***

EIGHT YEARS AGO, HE HAD EMERGED FROM ***STANFORD UNIVERSITY,*** A STARRY-EYED ***IDEALIST,*** READY TO SET THE BIOLOGICAL WORLD ***AFIRE*** WITH HIS ENTHUSIASM!

THE JOB OFFER FROM ***STEIN CHEMICALS*** WASN'T AS ***PRESTIGIOUS*** AS ***OTHERS*** HE'D RECEIVED! BUT HEADING UP THEIR NEW ***BIO-ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT INTRIGUED*** HIM! HE ***ACCEPTED*** THE POSITION, AND IN THE SAME MONTH, ***MARRIED*** HIS COLLEGE ***SWEETHEART*** AND MOVED TO THE ***SUBURBS!***

A YEAR ***LATER,*** THE ***BABY*** CAME! THERE WERE ***COMPLICATIONS! SERIOUS*** ONES! THE DOCTORS LATER SAID THAT ***DONNA*** ALMOST ***DIED*** IN ***CHILDBIRTH!***

JOHN HAD BEEN AT ***WORK***...AS ***USUAL!*** WHEN HE'D FINALLY FOUND OUT THAT HE'D BECOME A ***FATHER,*** THE ***DANGER*** WAS ***PAST! MOTHER*** AND ***SON*** WERE DOING ***FINE,*** THE DOCTORS TOLD HIM...DESPITE THE CHILD'S SERIOUS ***BIRTH DEFECTS!***

BILLY WOULD NEVER ***WALK,*** THEY DECREED! BUT AT THE TIME, ***THAT*** SEEMED LESS IMPORTANT THAN HAVING BOTH ***MOTHER*** AND ***BABY...ALIVE!***

IT WASN'T UNTIL ***LATER*** THAT JOHN REMEMBERED HIS ***GENETIC EXPERIMENTS*** TRYING TO BREED THE ***USELESS LEGS*** FROM A RED EFT ***NEWT!*** THE WORK HAD ***FAILED ABYSMALLY,*** SHOWING HIM THAT HE HAD MUCH TO ***LEARN*** BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO PLAY ***GOD*** WITH ***LIVING THINGS!***

BUT ***WORSE***...WHENEVER HE WOULD LOOK AT HIS ***SON,*** HE'D WONDER IF ***HE*** AND HIS ***EXPERIMENTS*** WEREN'T ***GREATER FAILURES*** THEN HE'D EVER CARE TO ***ADMIT!***

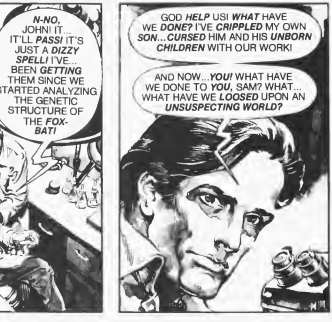
HAD HE TAKEN SUFFICIENT ***PRECAUTIONS*** IN HIS EXPERIMENTS WITH THE ***NEWT?*** SURELY, HE'D ABIDED BY ALL ***GOVERNMENTAL SAFETY REGULATIONS,*** ADMITTEDLY ***LIMITED*** THOUGH THEY WERE! AND ***YET...*** COULD HE HAVE ***CONTAMINATED*** HIS OWN GENETIC STRUCTURE WITH THAT OF THE NEWT'S? COULD HIS OWN GROSS ***INEPTITUDE*** HAVE CAUSED ***CHROMOSOMAL DAMAGE*** TO HIS ***SON...*** TO HIS SON'S ***DESCENDANTS?***

JOHN WOULD PROBABLY ***NEVER KNOW!*** BUT THE NIGHTMARISH ***POSSIBILITY...*** NO, ***PROBABILITY,*** WOULD HAVE ***HAUNTED*** HIM TO HIS ***GRAVE...***

...WOULD HAVE, THAT IS, IF AN EVEN ***GREATER*** NIGHTMARE HADN'T ***SLIPPED*** FROM PANDORA'S GENETICALLY RECONSTRUCTED BOX!

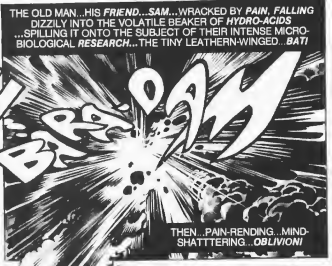
YOU'RE ***THROUGH*** HAIGHT! YOU ***HEAR*** ME? ***FINISHED!***

FOR ***EIGHT YEARS,*** YOU AND THIS OLD ***HAS-BEEN*** HAVE BEEN ***WASTING*** MY ***MONEY!*** THIS DEPARTMENT HASN'T SHOWN A ***RETURN*** OF ONE SINGLE ***PENNY!***



OHH! JOHN!
SAM!

MEMORIES! HOW AGONIZING THEY COULD BE! WITHIN THE CREATURE'S MIND THE NIGHTMARE REPLAYED ITSELF!
CRASH!
TRINKLE

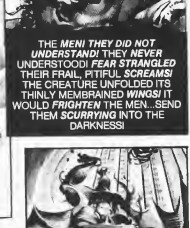

THE OLD MAN...HIS FRIEND...SAM...WRACKED BY PAIN, FALLING DIZZILY INTO THE VOLATILE BEAKER OF HYDRO-ACIDS ...SPILLING IT ONTO THE SUBJECT OF THEIR INTENSE MICRO-BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH...THE TINY LEATHERN-WINGED...BAT!
BAM
THEN...PAIN-RENDING...MIND-SHATTTERING...OBLIVION!

JEEZUS, CHARLIE! IT'S THE BIO-LAB!
CHAOS PIERCED THE DEATHLY STILLNESS WITH HEAVY, PANIC-GRIPPED FOOTSTEPS!

NEXT CAME...
...THE LIGHT!
S-SAM! HE... HE'S-!

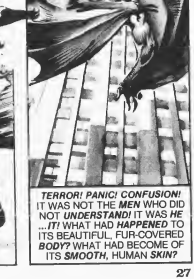
THE DAMNABLE, BLINDING...LIGHT!
CHARLIE! OVER THERE!

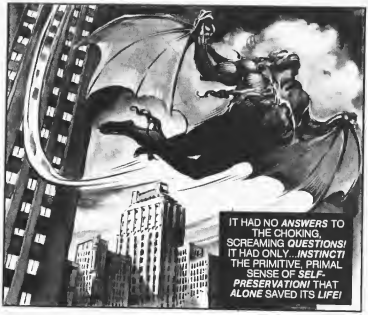
WHAT IN THE NAME OF GOD?
IT...IT'S HIDEOUS!


THE MEN! THEY DID NOT UNDERSTAND! THEY NEVER UNDERSTOOD! FEAR STRANGLED THEIR FRAIL, PITIFUL SCREAMS! THE CREATURE UNFOLDED ITS THINLY MEMBRAINED WINGS! IT WOULD FRIGHTEN THE MEN...SEND THEM SCURRYING INTO THE DARKNESS!

BUT SOMETHING WAS WRONG! HORRIBLY WRONG! THE WINGS WERE TOO LARGE! TOO HEAVY!
BAM
BAM
BAM
KILL IT, ROY! KILL THE DAMNED THING!

KRASH!
LOOK OUT!
AND...THE BODY...IT DID NOT WORK PROPERLY! IT WAS TOO BIG...TOO CLUMSY! IT--!

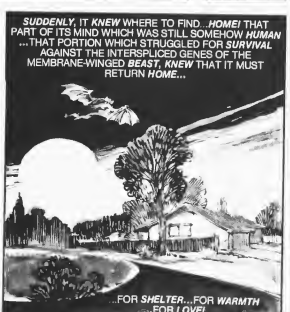

TERROR! PANIC! CONFUSION! IT WAS NOT THE MEN WHO DID NOT UNDERSTAND! IT WAS HE ...IT! WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO ITS BEAUTIFUL, FUR-COVERED BODY? WHAT HAD BECOME OF ITS SMOOTH, HUMAN SKIN?


IT HAD NO *ANSWERS* TO THE CHOKING, SCREAMING *QUESTIONS!* IT HAD ONLY... *INSTINCT!* THE PRIMITIVE, PRIMAL SENSE OF *SELF-PRESERVATION!* THAT *ALONE* SAVED ITS *LIFE!*

ITS SKITTERING *THOUGHTS RACED WILDLY* AS IT *FLED* THROUGH THE DARKNESS!
WHAT WAS IT TO DO? HOW WAS IT TO *SURVIVE?*

ITS *INSTINCTS* LED THE CREATURE TO *SAFETY*...TO *HOME!* AND YET, *COULD* THIS DANK-SMELLING, *DAMP PLACE* BE *HOME,* A PART OF ITS MIND WONDERED?

HOME WAS...*WARMTH!* THE WARMTH OF A LOVING *WOMAN'S ARMS*...THE WARMTH OF A LITTLE *BOY'S LAUGHTER!*

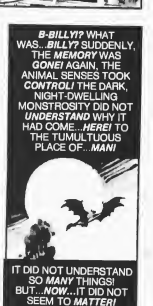

SUDDENLY, IT *KNEW* WHERE TO FIND...*HOME!* THAT PART OF ITS MIND WHICH WAS STILL SOMEHOW *HUMAN* ...THAT PORTION WHICH STRUGGLED FOR *SURVIVAL* AGAINST THE INTERSPLICED GENES OF THE MEMBRANE-WINGED *BEAST, KNEW* THAT IT MUST RETURN *HOME...*
...FOR *SHELTER*...FOR *WARMTH* ...FOR *LOVE!*

BUT...SOMETHING WAS *WRONG!* THE... *BAD* ONE! *HE* WAS HERE! HOW COULD *THIS* BE THE *SAFE PLACE?* HOW COULD IT BE *HOME?*
I'M *SORRY,* DONNA! IT WAS A *TERRIBLE ACCIDENT!*
OH, *JOHN! *SOB!* JOHN--!*

THE *SOFT ONE*...THE FEMALE...! SHE...*SHE* WAS A PART OF THIS SAFE PLACE! BUT...WHY WAS SHE IN THE *ARMS* OF...THE *MAN?*

FOR *COMFORT?* FOR *LOVE?* WHY? *WHY...? WHY?!?*
EVERYTHING WILL BE *ALL RIGHT,* DONNA! *I'LL* TAKE CARE OF YOU *NOW!*

ITS THOUGHTS *AGAIN* BEGAN TO *CLOUD!* THE CREATURE FELT A STRANGE *MOISTURE* IN ITS SIGHTLESS *EYES!* THE FEELING BROUGHT...*PAIN?* WHY WAS THE PAIN *WORSE* WHEN IT LOOKED UPON...THE *BOY?*


B-BILLY? WHAT WAS...*BILLY?* SUDDENLY, THE *MEMORY* WAS *GONE!* AGAIN, THE ANIMAL SENSES TOOK *CONTROL!* THE DARK, NIGHT-DWELLING MONSTROSITY DID NOT *UNDERSTAND* WHY IT HAD COME...*HERE!* TO THE TUMULTUOUS PLACE OF...*MAN!*
IT DID NOT UNDERSTAND SO *MANY* THINGS! BUT...*NOW*...IT DID NOT SEEM TO *MATTER! NOTHING* MATTERED, BUT...*SURVIVAL!*

Author: BILL DuBAY/Illustrator: RUDY NEBRES

AS THE ALIEN SPACE-TIME SHIP ORBITS EARTH'S EQUATOR, RESTIN DANE, THE ROOK, IS LOST IN A WORLD OF HIS OWN!
THOUGHTS ARE MILLIONS OF ARS AWAY AS HE ENTERS HIS GLEAMING TIME CASTLE AND SLOWLY EASES IT INTO THE STREAMS OF HISTORY!
NO MATTER HOW OFTEN I TRAVEL INTO THE PAST, I'LL NEVER GET OVER THE THRILL OF BEING THE ONLY MAN TO RELIVE HISTORY!
THERE ARE STILL SO MANY THINGS WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT OUR OWN EVOLUTION...! EVEN IF I COULD TAKE ENDLESS JAUNTS LIKE THIS,I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO LEARN A FRACTION OF ALL THERE IS TO KNOW!
F-FUNNY...! W-WARM ALL OF A SUDDEN! SO...D-DIZZY--I S-SUDDENLY... FEEL... SICK!
WAVES OF NAUSEA HAMMER THE CONFUSED TIME MASTER! IF ONLY FOR A MOMENT, HE FEELS AS THOUGH HE IS BLACKING OUT! YET, A MOMENT IS ALL IT TAKES FOR HIS HURTLING TIME SHIP TO SPIN DANGEROUSLY OUT OF CONTROL...
...AND SLAM TO A DEAD AND SUDDEN STOP WITHIN THE CENTER OF A STEAMING PRIMAL SWAMP...AN EASY MILLION YEARS OFF HIS INTENDED COURSE!
D-DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! N-NOTHING LIKE THIS'S EVER HAPPENED BEFORE! WHAT COULD HAVE MADE ME FEEL SO SUDDENLY ILL?
GOD NO! WHAT NOW? MY TIME CASTLE...IT'S BEING SUCKED INTO THIS PRIMAL GOO!
SINKING FAST! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT BEFORE I'M SUCKED DOWN WITH IT!
GREAT! THREE MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF THE MOST COMPLEX CIRCUITRY EVER DEVISED! I'LL PLAY HELL GETTING MY INSURANCE COMPANY TO BELIEVE THIS ONE!
IF, THAT IS, I EVER GET BACK TO MY OWN TIME TO REPORT IT TO MY INSURANCE COMPANY!

SUDDENLY...!
WHAT THE--?
AROO!
GOOD GOD! A TYRANNOSAURUS! BUT...HOW CAN THAT BE? UNLESS--! MY LITTLE MISHAP HAS THROWN ME MORE OFF COURSE THAN I REALIZED! IT'S LEFT ME STRANDED IN THE MESOZOIC AGE!
I'LL NEVER GET OUT OF HERE! BISHOP COULD SPEND THE NEXT SIXTY MILLION YEARS SEARCHING FOR ME WITH THE BACKUP TIME CASTLE ...AND NEVER COME CLOSE!
AND I WON'T LAST SIXTY SECONDS WITH THAT BIG BABY DROOLING DOWN MY NECK!
I DON'T WANT TO DO THIS, BUT ...IT'S HIM OR ME!
NO, RESTIN! DO NOT KILL THE BEAST! RUN! RUN FOR THE ROCKS BEHIND YOU!
THAT VOICE--? WHERE'S IT COMING FROM...?
NO TIME FOR QUESTIONS! INTO THAT CREVICE...QUICKLY!
THERE IS A CREVICE! TOO NARROW FOR THE BEAST...
...BUT JUST RIGHT FOR A SCHIZOPHRENIC COWBOY WITH PSEUDO-NEUROTIC HEAD NOISES!
AROOOO!

THE REPTILE IS *LEAVING*, SON! YOU ARE *SAFE* FOR THE MOMENT!
THAT *VOICE* AGAIN! THEN...I *DIDN'T IMAGINE* IT!
BUT *WHO* ARE YOU...*WHERE* ARE YOU? WHY CAN'T I *SEE* YOU?
I AM HERE TO *PROTECT* YOU, RESTIN...TO *GUIDE* YOU THROUGH THIS *DANGEROUS TIME...*
...AND TO *SHOW* YOU *PERILS* OF WHICH YOU'VE NEVER *DREAMED! COME!* JUST *AHEAD!*
BEHOLD, RESTIN... *LIFE* AS YOU *NEVER* BEFORE *IMAGINED* IT!
IT LOOKS LIKE GIANT *FUNGUS SPORES!*
NO! TO *TOUCH* THEM IS *CERTAIN DEATH!*
THE SPORES CARRY A TOXIC *VIRUS...* FOR WHICH THERE IS *NO CURE!* WE HAVE *FORESEEN* THIS MOMENT FOR *EONS,* MY SON! HAD WE NOT BEEN HERE TO *WARN* YOU... YOU WOULD HAVE *CARRIED* THIS VIRUS TO YOUR *OWN TIME...*
DEATH!? WHAT ARE YOU *SAYING?*
...WHERE IT WOULD HAVE *DESTROYED ALL LIFE!*
WHAT!?

BEFORE THE TIME MASTER CAN *VOICE* HIS INEVITABLE *QUESTIONS*...THE JUNGLE *EXPLODES* WITH GUTTURAL *FEROCITY!*
ROWWWWL!
A SAVAGE, MEAT-EATING *MONSTROSITY SPRINGS* FOR THE *ROOK*...
...AND *SAILS INSTEAD* INTO A SNAKING *TANGLE* OF *LIVING VINES!*
RESTIN!
ROARRR!
THE STRUGGLING BEAST IS *SQUEEZED, CRUSHED* AND VIRTUALLY *PULLED APART* BY THE VEGETATION UNTIL ITS *STRUGGLE* IS *ENDED!*
RESTIN *WATCHES* IN HORRIFIED *DISBELIEF* AS THE CREATURE'S *BLOOD TRICKLES* FROM THE VINES ...INTO THE YAWNING, SLURPING *MAW* OF THE BLOOD-SUCKING *SPORES!*
AS YOU CAN SEE, IT IS A PERFECT *SYMBIOTIC* RELATIONSHIP! THE LIVING VINES PROVIDE *SUSTENANCE* FOR THE *SPORES*...WHILE THE *SPORES,* IN TURN, SECRETE *WASTE PRODUCTS* WHICH *FERTILIZE* THE *VINES!*
IF THOSE *SAME* VIRUS-FATTENED ENZYMES WERE *RELEASED* IN A TIME WHEN PROPER *IMMUNITIES* HAD NOT *EVOLVED*...THEY WOULD CAUSE A *PLAGUE* THAT COULD *WIPE OUT ALL LIVING THINGS!*
PRIMITIVE VIRUS-SATURATED *ENZYMES* BREAK DOWN THE CELLULAR STRUCTURE OF THE *BLOOD* FOR THE FUNGUS TO *USE!*
THAT'S WHY YOU DIDN'T WANT ME TO *TOUCH* THEM!

GOD HELP ME! I'M A FOOL! I COULD'VE KILLED AN ENTIRE WORLD AND NEVER EVEN REALIZED THAT I WAS RESPONSIBLE!
HOW MUCH OTHER UNTOLD DAMAGE HAVE I DONE BY JOY-RIDING BACK AND FORTH THROUGH TIME?
WE HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE, MY SON! YOU HAVE ALWAYS USED YOUR TIME TRAVEL DEVICE WISELY... NEVER IRREPARABLY DISRUPTING THE FLOW OF HISTORY!
THOUGH YOU MAY NOT REALIZE IT, THIS INCIDENT, WHICH SEEMS SO CATASTROPHIC TO YOU NOW, HAS TAUGHT YOU THE VIRTUE OF CAUTION! YOU WILL BE WISER FOR THE EXPERIENCE!
GREAT! WHAT GOOD IS THAT GOING TO DO ME HERE... TRAPPED SIXTY MILLION YEARS FROM MY OWN TIME?
WE ARE YOUR PROTECTORS, RESTIN! TRUST IN US! WE WILL LET NO HARM COME TO YOU!
PROTECTORS!? BUT WHO...WHAT ARE YOU? WHERE ARE YOU? WHY CAN'T I SEE YOU?
WE ARE EVERYWHERE, MY SON! YOU NEED ONLY CALL UPON US ...AND WE WILL BE THERE!

MMMMMMM!
SUDDENLY, A FAMILIAR, ALMOST MELODIC SOUND DRIFTS THROUGH THE PREHISTORIC AIR! RESTIN WHIRLS, STUNNED, AMAZED, ECSTATIC...AND THINKING THAT HE'S GONE MORE THAN A LITTLE INSANE AS HE SEES HIS WONDROUS TIME MACHINE!
CORAL! HOW DID YOU FIND ME?
OH, FATHER... IT'S SO INCREDIBLE! IT WAS ALMOST LIKE A RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE!
I HEARD THIS DIVINE VOICE...TELLING ME THAT YOU'D BEEN STRANDED IN TIME! I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT, BUT...IT GUIDED ME HERE! IT–!
SUDDENLY... ..THE MASSIVE LIZARD THAT ATTACKED HIM EARLIER, SPIES RESTIN AGAIN! WITH AN ENRAGED ROAR, IT BOUNDS AFTER THE TIME TRAVELLER FOR THE SECOND TIME THAT DAY...
NO TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT NOW, HONEY!
...ONLY TO BE FRUSTRATED AGAIN, WHEN ITS DINNER DISAPPEARS BEFORE ITS ANGRY EYES!
WE'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM HERE BEFORE WE END UP AS PREHISTORIC PLANT FERTILIZER!
LATER...IN RESTIN'S DESERT CASTLE...!
OH, FATHER ...DID WE REALLY HEAR THE VOICE OF GOD?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE HEARD, CORAL! BUT I SUSPECT THAT THESE PROTECTORS HAVE BEEN AROUND A VERY LONG TIME!
"NO DOUBT THEY'VE BEEN GODS TO SOME! BUT WHOEVER...WHATEVER THEY ARE, I'M AWFULLY GRATEFUL THAT THEY'RE OUT THERE WATCHING OVER US!"
end

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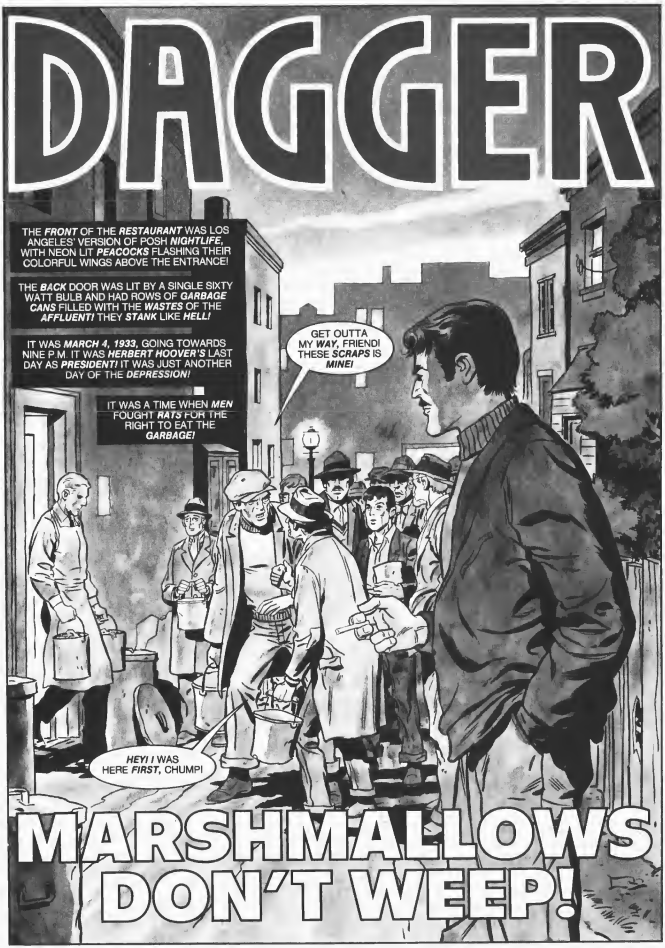


MARSHMALLOWS DON'T WEEP!

Author: **DON McGREGOR**/Illustrator: **BILL DRAUT**

C'MON, YOU GUYS... THERE'S NO CALL TO FIGHT! THERE'S SO MANY OF US, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO SPLIT IT, IS ALL!

SPLIT IT, LIKE HELL! I GOT ME FIVE KIDS WITH EMPTY BELLIES! THERE'S GOIN' TO BE PLENTY OF TROUBLE IF ANYBODY TRIES TO TAKE THIS FOOD OUT'VE THEIR MOUTHS!

LOOK, PAL...MOST'VE US HERE HAVE KIDS! NOW WE CAN WORK THIS–!

WE'LL WORK IT OUT, ALL RIGHT! I SAY WHAT'S THERE IS MINE!
WHAP!

AND WHAT HE GOT, GOES DOUBLE FOR ANYBODY ELSE THAT COMES NEAR THIS SLOP BEFORE I'M THROUGH!

OKAY! I TRIED TO BE NICE! BUT IF YOU'RE NOT BUYIN' NICE...TRY THIS ON FOR SIZE!
OOOF!

SAME OLD, ANGEL!

I KNEW ANGEL FROM THE WAR! THE WAR TO END ALL WARS, THEY CALLED IT! THE TWO OF US HAD SHARED TIME IN THE TRENCHES OF FRANCE...WHICH HAD BEEN THE WAITING ROOMS TO HELL! WE WERE YOUNG THEN! AND WHAT WE HAD IN COMMON WAS THAT WE BOTH LOVED AIRPLANES LIKE NOBODY'S BUSINESS!
KANGG!
HE'D ALWAYS BEEN PRETTY EVEN-TEMPERED! HE DIDN'T MUCH LIKE BULLIES BACK THEN, EITHER! AND THAT'D OCCASIONALLY GOTTEN HIM INTO TROUBLE! I COULD SEE THAT THINGS HADN'T CHANGED!
GET UP, CLOWN ..FIGHT LIKE A MAN...
OR I'LL STOMP YOU INTO THE GROUND!
THAT'S HARDLY SPORTING NOW...IS IT 'FRIEND?'
H-HEY!
DAGGER!? LEAPIN' LIZARDS ..IS THAT REALLY YOU?
NOW WHO ELSE USUALLY SAVES YOU FROM THESE LITTLE SCRAPES YOU GET YOUR-SELF INTO?
I CAME TO SEE IF YOU WANTED TO TAKE A SPIN!
OR WOULD YOU RATHER FINISH WHAT YOU STARTED WITH THIS LUMMOX?
WAKK!
LEAPIN' LIZARDS! I'LL TAKE THE SPIN ANY DAY!
GOOD! ONE THING THOUGH!
YOU'VE GOT TO PROMISE TO STOP QUOTING LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE!
WE WALKED OUT OF THE ALLEY! THE GARBAGE STILL STANK ...BUT THAT DIDN'T STOP THE MOB OF HUNGRY MEN FROM DESCENDING ON IT LIKE VULTURES! IT MADE ME HEARTSICK TO SEE WHAT DECENT, GOD-FEARING HUMAN BEINGS HAD BEEN REDUCED TO!

I OWNED A 1929 ***JORDAN ROADSTER!*** IT WAS ***UNPOLISHED*** AND ***MUD-STAINED,*** BUT ***TUNED*** TO A ***'71!*** YOU COULD SET YOUR ***CLOCK*** BY THE ***PURR*** OF ITS ***MOTOR!***

IT COST ME ***$200.00 USED...***WHICH WAS DAMNED ***EXTRAVAGANT!*** BUT IT TOOK ME ***INTO*** AND ***OUT OF*** PLACES WHERE ***SANE MEN*** AND MORE ***FRAGILE*** MACHINES WOULD ***NEVER*** GO!

I COULD ***SEE*** THAT ***ANGEL*** WAS ***AFRAID*** TO CLIMB ***INTO*** IT...AS IF HIS ***POVERTY*** WOULD SOMEHOW ***CONTAMINATE*** THE LEATHER SEATS!

C'MON, BUDDY...! I'M NOT GONNA STAND HERE HOLDING THE ***DOOR OPEN*** ALL ***NIGHT!***

I...!-!

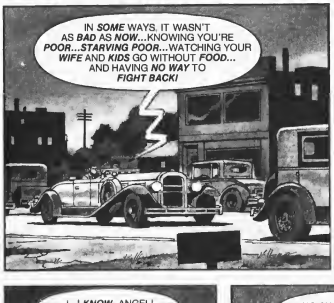
I...DIDN'T WANT ***YOU,*** OF ALL PEOPLE, TO ***SEE*** ME LIKE THIS, DICK!

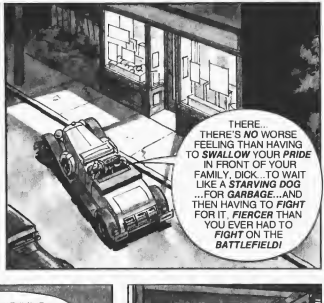
WE GO BACK A ***LONG WAY,*** ANGEL! IT'S NO ***CRIME*** TO BE ***POOR! BOTH*** OF US HAVE SEEN ***HARDER TIMES*** THAN ***THIS!***

YOU ***REMEMBER*** WHEN WE WERE TOGETHER IN THE ***TRENCHES?*** WE WERE ***KIDS!*** WET...***SCARED...***SEEING ***DEATH UP CLOSE!*** THERE WAS ***NOTHING*** WORSE THAN ***THAT!***

IT...IT ***WAS*** PRETTY ***FRIGHTENING!*** IT WAS THE ***FIRST TIME*** I EVER ***REALIZED*** THAT I WAS ***HUMAN...***THAT I COULD ***DIE...***JUST LIKE ALL THOSE ***CORPSES*** ROTTING IN THE VERY ***TRENCHES*** WE FOUGHT TO ***HOLD!***

I...I DON'T KNOW WHO WAS ***WORSE OFF...*** THOSE WHO ***DIED...***OR THOSE OF US WHO HAD TO ***LIVE*** WITH WHAT WE'D ***SEEN*** ...WITH WHAT WE'D ***DONE*** AND ***DIDN'T*** DO!


IN SOME WAYS, IT WASN'T AS BAD AS NOW...KNOWING YOU'RE POOR...STARVING POOR...WATCHING YOUR WIFE AND KIDS GO WITHOUT FOOD... AND HAVING NO WAY TO FIGHT BACK!


THERE... THERE'S NO WORSE FEELING THAN HAVING TO SWALLOW YOUR PRIDE IN FRONT OF YOUR FAMILY, DICK...TO WAIT LIKE A STARVING DOG ...FOR GARBAGE...AND THEN HAVING TO FIGHT FOR IT. FIERCER THAN YOU EVER HAD TO FIGHT ON THE BATTLEFIELD!

I... I KNOW, ANGEL! I SAW GINNY TODAY...LIVING IN A TENT! SHE'S THE ONE WHO TOLD ME WHERE TO FIND YOU!
I DON'T WANT CHARITY FROM YOU, DAGGER!

NO CHARITY! I'VE GOT AN OFFER FOR YOU, ANGEL! A JOB!
DON'T JOKE ABOUT A THING LIKE THAT!

NO JOKE, KID! I NEED SOMEONE I CAN TRUST, SOMEONE WITH A SENSE OF LOYALTY! I FIGURE THAT'S YOU! WHAT DO YOU SAY?
IF YOU CAN PUT FOOD ON MY TABLE, YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF A PARTNER!

WELL, IT WON'T BE SIRLOIN...THAT'S UP TO TWENTY-NINE CENTS A POUND! BUT WE CAN MANAGE THE STAPLES!
WHAT KIND'VE WORK DO WE DO?
WE'RE FREELANCE ADVENTURERS!
SOUNDS ILLEGAL! ADVENTURE DIED IN 1929!

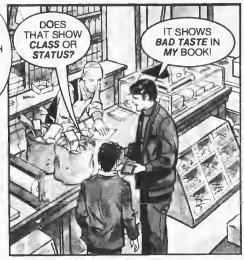
NOPE! YOU ARE NOW A PART OF ADVENTURERS UNLIMITED! AND WE EVEN HAVE A CLIENT!
I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT!

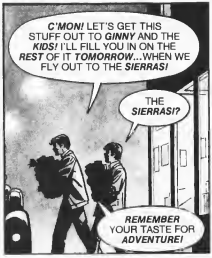
WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO?
OUR CLIENT IS PATRIOT PICTURES! THEY RE SO SMALL THEY HAVE BUT ONE BANKABLE STAR...
THAT'S MAX STARR, THE COWBOY HERO!

THE GUY WITH THE SILVER SEQUINED CHAPS!
FOUR-SQUARE, STRAIGHT-SHOOTIN' HERO OF AMERICAN YOUTH! AND THEREIN LIES THE PROBLEM!

HE'S NOT SO FOUR-SQUARE! MAX IS A PHILANDERING LECH WHO'S IN THE MIDST OF CREATING A SCANDAL!
YOU'VE HEARD OF MILTON J. MARSH?

THE MARSHMALLOW MAGNATE?
SOUNDS FUNNY... BUT IT'S TRUE! HE LIVES IN ONE OF THOSE MANSIONS WITH A DRIVEWAY LINED BY A DOZEN CAST IRON COLORED BOYS WITH LANTERNS!


DOES THAT SHOW CLASS OR STATUS?
IT SHOWS BAD TASTE IN MY BOOK!


C'MON! LET'S GET THIS STUFF OUT TO GINNY AND THE KIDS! I'LL FILL YOU IN ON THE REST OF IT TOMORROW...WHEN WE FLY OUT TO THE SIERRAS!
THE SIERRAS!?
REMEMBER YOUR TASTE FOR ADVENTURE!

GINNY WAS WAITING FOR US ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN...IN ONE OF THOSE MISERABLE TENT CITIES THAT MADE YOU ASHAMED TO BE AN AMERICAN! THE KIDS THOUGHT LIVING IN A TENT AND GOING WITHOUT FOOD WAS THE NATURAL WAY OF THINGS! I THOUGHT THAT MEN WHO FOUGHT AS VALIANTLY FOR DEMOCRACY AS ANGEL HAD, DESERVED A LITTLE BETTER LIFE FOR THEIR FAMILIES, IF NOT THEMSELVES!
LOOK, GIN! TONIGHT WE EAT!
OH, DICK... HOW CAN I EVER THANK YOU?
THANK ME AFTER THE JOB'S OVER, GIN! IT MIGHT NOT BE AN EASY ONE!

THE OLD STANDARD WAS A LEFTOVER FROM MY BARNSTORMING DAYS...DAYS WHEN PLANES WERE STILL CONSIDERED A MIRACLE...AND PEOPLE WOULD COME FROM MILES AROUND TO WITNESS THE MIRACLE OF THEIR LIFETIME!
ANYHOW, MAX HAD THE AFFRONTERY TO START ROMANCING MARSH'S DAUGHTER!
THE OLD MAN, EVER ON THE LOOKOUT FOR FORTUNE HUNTERS, FIGURES THAT MAX IS AFTER HER INHERITANCE!
THE REAL PROBLEM, AS I SEE IT, HOWEVER...IS THAT MAX IS OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE...IN THE SIERRAS...DOING SOME LOCATION SHOOTING FOR HIS NEXT PICTURE!
WHY'S THAT A PROBLEM?
BECAUSE YESTERDAY...ELSA VANISHED FROM HER IVORY MANSION! WANT TO GUESS WHERE SHE HEADED?
WE'VE GOT TO GET HER OUT OF THERE...AND MAX INTO ISOLATION BEFORE THE PRESS OR HER FATHER'S MEN FIND THEM!

IN THE *SIERRAS*, THE *WIND* WAS A *KISS*. FILLED WITH *PROMISE!* IT WAS DIFFICULT TO *RECALL* THE WORLD OF *HUNGRY KIDS* AND *FILTHY TENTS!*

HEY! DID YOU HEAR *F.D.R.'S INAUGURATION SPEECH* TODAY?

KINDA *MISSED* IT!

SAID WE HAD NOTHING TO *FEAR* BUT *FEAR ITSELF!*

THAT'S A LITTLE HARD TO *ACCEPT* WHEN YOUR *STOMACH'S GROWLING!*

SOUNDS T'ME LIKE HE'S GOT SOME *BIG PLANS!*

NOW...A *PLANE'S* A *MIRACLE INVENTION!* BUT A *SKY TRAM* IS PRETTY DARN *SPECIAL*, TOO! WHEN I SAW THE MOUNTAIN CAR *GLIDING* BETWEEN TWO PEAKS, I *SOARED IN* FOR A *CLOSER VIEW!* I ALMOST COULDN'T *BELIEVE* WHAT WAS *THERE* FOR US BIRDS TO *SEE!*

YOU WERE *TOLD* TO STAY *AWAY* FROM THE *GIRL*, COWBOY!

YOU DIDN'T *LISTEN*...SO *NOW* IT'S GONNA *COST* YA!

I KNEW *STARR* AND THE *GIRL* FROM THEIR *PICTURES!* THE TWO *HEAVIES* HAD TO BE *DADDY'S* MEN! *THEY'D* FOUND THE *LOVEBIRDS* BEFORE *I* HAD!

HELP! HELP US! PLEASE! HELLLLPP!

DICK! LOOK! THAT'S *MAX STARR!* I'D RECOGNIZE THOSE *CHAPS ANYWHERE!*

THE GIRL MUST BE *ELSA!* BUT *WHO* ARE THOSE *OTHER* TWO GUYS?

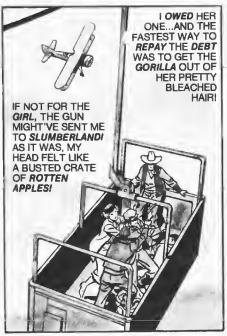
THEY'RE NOT *HANSEL* AND *GRETEL!*

THOUGH I COULDN'T HEAR THEM ABOVE THE ROAR OF MY PLANE'S ENGINE, IT WASN'T HARD TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THE BULLY BOYS WERE SAYING!
CHIGGER! THERE'S A PLANE BUZZIN' US!
GOSH, DAGGER! YOU WANT TO GIVE ME BACK MY STOMACH?
I WANT YOU TO TAKE THE STICK, ANGEL!
FIRE SOME WARNING SHOTS AT 'EM! LET 'EM KNOW IT AIN'T HEALTHY AROUND HERE FOR SNOOPERS!
GOOD GOD, DAGGER! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? A TRANSFER!
A TRANSFER? DAMMIT, MAN! MAYBE IF YOU WERE NUTS YOU'D TRY TO STEP ONTO ANOTHER PLANE! BUT THAT'S A STATIONARY OBJECT!
YOU'RE GONNA KILL YOURSELF!
DON'T WORRY! I'LL USE THOSE GUNSELS FOR CUSHIONS!
THAT GUY MUST BE OUT'VE HIS HEAD! HE'S GOIN' FOR A STROLL ON THE WING!
BDAM!
BAM!
BAM!
THE WIND WAS NO LONGER A KISS OF PROMISE! IT WAS A HOSTILE ONSLAUGHT THAT TWISTED MY FACE AND CLOTHING INTO PAINFUL WIND-SLAPPED SHAPES!

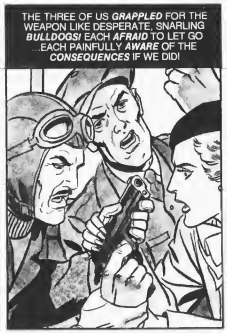
FOR AN INSTANT, I SAW MY *BONES* SCATTERED LIKE A GORY MASS OF PICK-UP STICKS *SPLATTERED* ON THE JAGGED ROCKS BELOW! IT WAS ALMOST ENOUGH TO MAKE ME *CRAWL* BACK INSIDE THE PLANE!
GET BACK *IN* HERE, DAGGER! IT'S SAFER RAIDIN' *GARBAGE CANS!*
HOLD IT *STILL*, ANGEL!
I *WOULD*... IF I COULD GET MY *HANDS* TO STOP *SHAKING!*
STILL... THE CABLE CAR CAME UP *AT* ME LIKE A *SPEEDING LOCOMOTIVE!* I *KNEW* IT WASN'T GOING TO WORK! FOR AN ALL-TOO ETERNAL INSTANT, I WAS *CONVINCED* I WAS GOING TO... *DIE!*
ANGEL WAS *PERFECT!* HE CAME IN *LOW*...AND *SLOW*...AND PULLED *NOSE-UP* JUST AS HE SAW ME *STEP* INTO *THIN AIR!*
WHOOSH!
BOOOF!
EVEN AS I *SLAMMED* INTO MARSH'S BIG *GUNSEL*...FELT HIS *CHEST* COLLAPSE UNDER MY HEELS, I *STILL* WASN'T SURE THAT I WAS GOING TO *MAKE* IT!

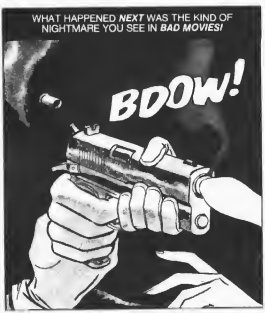
I DON'T KNOW IF I WAS *STUNNED*, IN *SHOCK*, OR JUST *SHAKEN* FROM THE *IMPACT!* I WAS ONLY DIMLY *AWARE* THAT MY *KNEES* REFUSED TO *FUNCTION!* I *KNELT* THERE...*WOBBLING*... FEELING MORE *DEAD* THAN *ALIVE*...

...UNTIL MY SKULL *COLLIDED* WITH A *FALLING JACKHAMMER!*
KRAK!

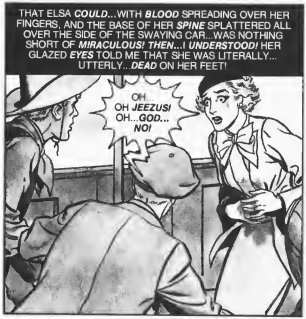

I *OWED* HER ONE...AND THE FASTEST WAY TO *REPAY* THE *DEBT* WAS TO GET THE *GORILLA* OUT OF HER PRETTY BLEACHED HAIR!
IF NOT FOR THE *GIRL*, THE GUN MIGHT'VE SENT ME TO *SLUMBERLAND!* AS IT WAS, MY HEAD FELT LIKE A BUSTED CRATE OF *ROTTEN APPLES!*

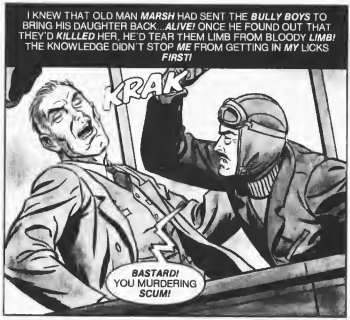
SOMEHOW...I GOT MY COWARDLY KNEES *WORKING!* I LUNGED FOR THE CREEP'S GUN THE SAME INSTANT *SHE* DID!


THE THREE OF US *GRAPPLED* FOR THE WEAPON LIKE DESPERATE, SNARLING *BULLDOGS!* EACH *AFRAID* TO LET GO ...EACH PAINFULLY *AWARE* OF THE *CONSEQUENCES* IF WE DID!


WHAT HAPPENED *NEXT* WAS THE KIND OF NIGHTMARE YOU SEE IN *BAD MOVIES!*
BDOW!

THE .45 WAS STANDARD ARMY-ISSUE...*HAIR-TRIGGER* AND ALL! BY *RIGHTS*, *NONE* OF US SHOULD HAVE BEEN *STANDING!*


THAT ELSA COULD...WITH BLOOD SPREADING OVER HER FINGERS, AND THE BASE OF HER SPINE SPLATTERED ALL OVER THE SIDE OF THE SWAYING CAR...WAS NOTHING SHORT OF MIRACULOUS! THEN...I UNDERSTOOD! HER GLAZED EYES TOLD ME THAT SHE WAS LITERALLY... UTTERLY...DEAD ON HER FEET!
OH OH JEEZUS! OH...GOD... NO!


I KNEW THAT OLD MAN MARSH HAD SENT THE BULLY BOYS TO BRING HIS DAUGHTER BACK...ALIVE! ONCE HE FOUND OUT THAT THEY'D KILLED HER, HE'D TEAR THEM LIMB FROM BLOODY LIMB! THE KNOWLEDGE DIDN'T STOP ME FROM GETTING IN MY LICKS FIRST!
KRAK
BASTARD! YOU MURDERING SCUM!

I DIDN'T EVEN THINK ABOUT OUR FORGOTTEN COWBOY HERO UNTIL I SAW HIM STANDING...SHAKING...IN A COLD SWEAT ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE GONDOLA!
SATISFIED, HERO?
D-DON'T DON'T LET HER DIE!

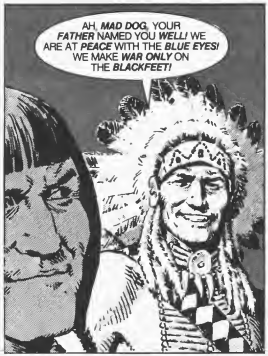
SHE'S ALREADY DEAD, YOU FOOL! KILLED BY YOU... AND HER FATHER!
SHE WAS JUST ANOTHER CHIPPIE TO YOU. WASN'T SHE? PART OF MAX STARR'S PRIVATE BRAND!

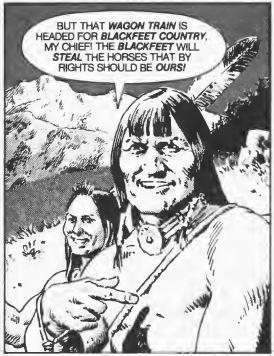
YOU...YOU GOT IT WRONG, MISTER! IT...IT WAS LIKE THAT WITH A LOT OF GIRLS BUT...BUT NOT WITH ELSA!
SHE... SHE WAS MY LITTLE MARSHMALLOW ...SO...SOFT! S-SO ...SWEET! AND ...AND NOW--!

I'D NEVER SEEN A COWBOY CRY BEFORE! EVEN AS HE KNELT THERE CRADLING THE DEAD GIRL IN HIS ARMS, I COULDN'T TELL IF MAX STARR, COWBOY HERO, WAS ACTING A PART... OR NOT!
end

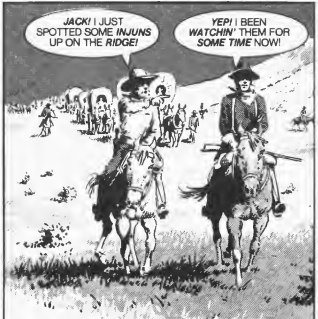
Author and Illustrator: JOHN SEVERIN

THERE, OH MIGHTY EAGLE, GO HORSES WHICH ARE OURS FOR THE TAKING! PERHAPS IN THE NIGHT, WE SHOULD STEAL INTO THE PALE SKINS ENCAMPMENT...!


AH, MAD DOG, YOUR FATHER NAMED YOU WELL! WE ARE AT PEACE WITH THE BLUE EYES! WE MAKE WAR ONLY ON THE BLACKFEET!


BUT THAT WAGON TRAIN IS HEADED FOR BLACKFEET COUNTRY, MY CHIEF! THE BLACKFEET WILL STEAL THE HORSES THAT BY RIGHTS SHOULD BE OURS!

THERE IS TRUTH IN YOUR WORDS!
PERHAPS WE SHOULD WARN THE LIGHT SKINNED ONES!

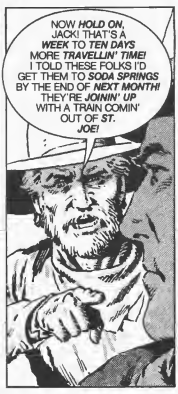

JACK! I JUST SPOTTED SOME INJUNS UP ON THE RIDGE!
YEP! I BEEN WATCHIN' THEM FOR SOME TIME NOW!

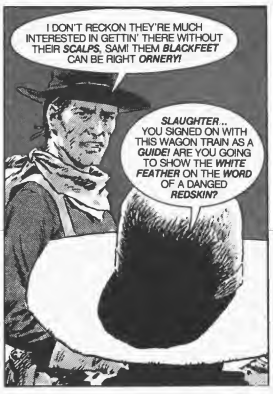
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SOMETHIN'? WE HAVE TO SHAPE UP THE WAGONS!
HOLD ON, SAM! IF THEY WAS HOSTILES, THEY'D'VE BEEN ON US LONG BEFORE NOW...INSTEAD'A JUST SITTIN' UP THERE WHERE WE CAN SEE' EM!

THEY AIN'T JUST SETTIN' NO MORE, JACK! THEY'RE HEADED THIS WAY!
IT'S A CHIEF! LOOKS LIKE HE'S COMIN' FOR A PALAVER! WONDER WHAT HE WANTS?

HAOW! WE ARE CROW FROM THE ABSAROKA! FRIENDS!
HAOW, CHIEF! WE'RE WAGONS HEADIN' WEST TO MEET THE OREGON TRAIL!

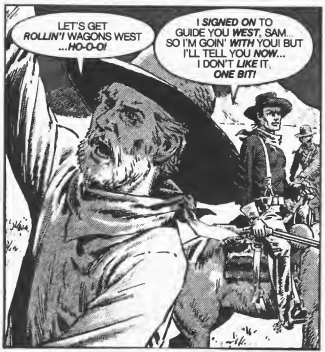
YOU ARE MANY MARCHES NORTH OF THE OREGON TRAIL! YOU ARE HEADED INTO BLACKFEET TERRITORY...AND YOU ARE TOO SMALL A PARTY TO FIGHT YOUR WAY THROUGH THEIR HOSTILE LAND!
HMMMM! IF THAT'S THE WAY OF IT, I REOKON WE'D BETTER BE HEADIN' SOUTH!


NOW HOLD ON, JACK! THAT'S A WEEK TO TEN DAYS MORE TRAVELLIN' TIME! I TOLD THESE FOLKS I'D GET THEM TO SODA SPRINGS BY THE END OF NEXT MONTH! THEY'RE JOININ' UP WITH A TRAIN COMIN' OUT OF ST. JOE!


I DON'T RECKON THEY'RE MUCH INTERESTED IN GETTIN' THERE WITHOUT THEIR SCALPS. SAM! THEM BLACKFEET CAN BE RIGHT ORNERY!
SLAUGHTER... YOU SIGNED ON WITH THIS WAGON TRAIN AS A GUIDE! ARE YOU GOING TO SHOW THE WHITE FEATHER ON THE WORD OF A DANGED REDSKIN?

DO NOT MISTAKE CAUTION FOR COWARDICE, MY FRIEND! THE BLACKFEET ARE FIERCE IN BATTLE AND HOSTILE TO PALEFACES!
HOGWASH! THERE'S A TREATY! THEY WOULDN'T DARE ATTACK US!
HO!

MAD DOG IS RIGHT TO LAUGH! THE BLACKFEET WILL NOT LET YOU PASS THROUGH THEIR COUNTRY!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS! INJUNS WARNING WHITE MEN ABOUT OTHER INJUNS...IT'S FOOLISHNESS!

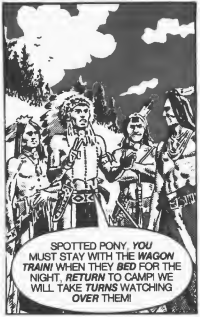

LET'S GET ROLLIN'! WAGONS WEST ...HO-O-O!
I SIGNED ON TO GUIDE YOU WEST, SAM... SO I'M GOIN' WITH YOU! BUT I'LL TELL YOU NOW... I DON'T LIKE IT, ONE BIT!

THE WAGON MASTER IS A FOOL, WHILE THE MAN CALLED SLAUGHTER IS WISE! IT IS TOO BAD HE MUST BE A SACRIFICE TO STUPIDITY!
HEAR ME, MY CHIEF! MAD DOG SEES PROFIT IN THE WHITE MAN'S FOLLY! LET US FOLLOW THESE PALEFACES!

WHEN THE BLACKFEET ATTACK THEM, WE CAN FALL UPON THE BLACKFEET! IT WILL BE A GREAT VICTORY...AND WE CAN CLAIM MANY HORSES!

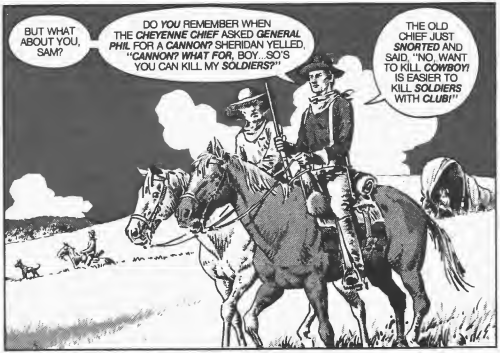
MAD DOG, YOU ARE A *ROGUE!* BUT SOMETIMES YOU ARE A *WISE* ROGUE! WE WILL *FOLLOW* THE WAGONS AS YOU *SUGGEST!*

SOMEWHERE *OUT THERE,* THE BLACKFEET ARE *WAITING!* YOU, *WHITE* BEAR AND *LITTLE KNIFE,* WILL RIDE IN *FRONT* OF THE WAGONS! *SCOUT* FOR THE BLACKFEET! WHEN YOU *FIND* THEM ...*RETURN* TO US!

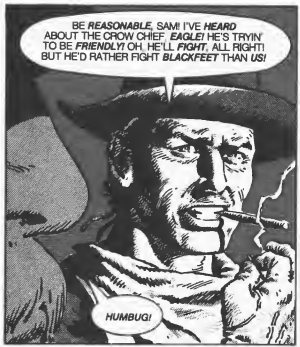

SPOTTED PONY, *YOU* MUST STAY WITH THE *WAGON TRAIN!* WHEN THEY *BED* FOR THE NIGHT, *RETURN* TO CAMP! WE WILL TAKE *TURNS* WATCHING *OVER* THEM!

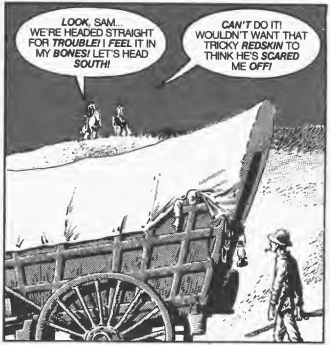
HA! CROW *DOG SOLDIERS* PLAYING *NURSEMAID* TO THE *BLUE EYES!* WE ARE *ASHAMED!*

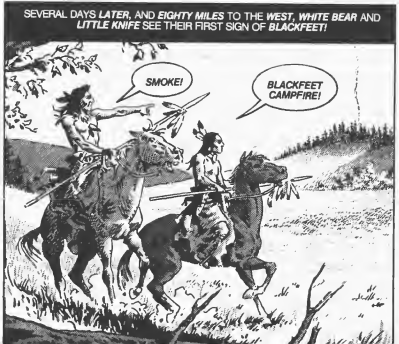
A *REDSKIN* IS A *REDSKIN,* AND YA CAN'T *TRUST NONE'A* THEM, JACK! YOU REMEMBER WHAT *PHIL SHERIDAN* SAID BACK IN '69?*
I REMEMBER!
* *GENERAL PHILIP SHERIDAN* SAID IT MORE THAN *ONCE!* "THE ONLY *GOOD* INDIAN IS A *DEAD* INDIAN!"


BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU, SAM?
DO *YOU* REMEMBER WHEN THE *CHEYENNE CHIEF* ASKED *GENERAL PHIL* FOR A *CANNON?* SHERIDAN YELLED, "*CANNON? WHAT FOR,* BOY... SO'S YOU CAN KILL MY *SOLDIERS?*"
THE OLD CHIEF JUST *SNORTED* AND SAID, "NO, WANT TO KILL *COWBOY!* IS EASIER TO KILL *SOLDIERS* WITH *CLUB!*"

A FANCIFUL TALE, JACK! BUT LIKE SHERIDAN SAYS...YOU JUST CAN'T TRUST THE VARMINTS! LOOKY HERE!


BE REASONABLE, SAM! I'VE HEARD ABOUT THE CROW CHIEF, EAGLE! HE'S TRYIN' TO BE FRIENDLY! OH, HE'LL FIGHT, ALL RIGHT! BUT HE'D RATHER FIGHT BLACKFEET THAN US!
HUMBUG!


LOOK, SAM... WE'RE HEADED STRAIGHT FOR TROUBLE! I FEEL IT IN MY BONES! LET'S HEAD SOUTH!
CAN'T DO IT! WOULDN'T WANT THAT TRICKY REDSKIN TO THINK HE'S SCARED ME OFF!


SEVERAL DAYS LATER, AND EIGHTY MILES TO THE WEST, WHITE BEAR AND LITTLE KNIFE SEE THEIR FIRST SIGN OF BLACKFEET!
SMOKE!
BLACKFEET CAMPFIRE!

IT'S A WAR PARTY! MAYBE TWENTY BRAVES!
MAYBE MORE! COME! WE MUST GO BACK AND TELL CHIEF EAGLE!
TO BE CONTINUED!

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

SCINTILLATING NEW PRODUCTS FROM THE MOVIE!

PRINCESS LEIA #26294—$5.50

LUKE & THE TAUNTAUN #26293—$5.50

YODA #26295—$5.50

HAN SOLO #26296—$5.50

NEW! THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK FIGURINES

FIGURINES: Four foes of the fearsome Empire are subjects of Craft Master's detailed vinyl rotocast figurines. Figures are 5½ inches tall and are depicted in striking poses from the movie. You color them yourself in any style you like! Each set contains one figurine, four acrylic colors, paint brush and instructions. Ever try to paint a tauntaun? This one will stand still for you! Luke sits astride! Also: Yoda, Han Solo and Princess Leia!

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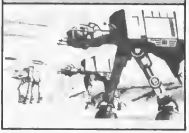
DARTH VADER #26290—$2.95

YODA #26291—$2.95

Craft Master presents new Glow-in-the-dark paint-by-number sets with scenes and characters from The Empire Strikes Back! The paint keeps shining after the lights go out! Each set contains one 8"x10", 7 acrylic colors, one cup of glow-in-the-dark paint, a brush, and instructions!

BATTLE ON HOTH PAINT SET



BATTLE ON HOTH: Classic Hoth battle scene to paint by number! 10"x14" panel, 12 acrylic paint colors and brush in this set! #26292—$3.75

FANTASTIC PILLOW CASES & BED SHEETS

PILLOW CASE & BED SHEET: You will dream the dreams of a young Jedi when you sleep in these colorful, comfortable Star Wars bed sheets! Standard size pillowcase and twin flat bedsheet of soft celanese fortrel playfully decorated with full color reproductions of Luke, Han Solo, Yoda, Darth, C-3PO, R2D2, Leia, Boba Fett & Chewie on a sky blue field!!

NEW!

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YODA HAND PUPPET: A beautifully sculpted and detailed puppet of the Jedi Master! Standing 8½" tall unassisted as figurine, or his head and arms can be manipulated! Order now! #26298—$13.95

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EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS CLASSIC NOVELS!

LOST ON VENUS

In the room of the seven doors on mysterious Venus, Carson Napier faced the choice of his life. Six doors led to certain and bloody deaths. The seventh was the door of life. If he chose this door, it would lead him to the strangest & most perilous adventure of all and, possibly, a fate worse than mere death! This is one adventure you won't want to miss! #21109—$1.75

THE CAVE GIRL

Beck In Boston U.S.A. he was a dandy named Weldo Smith-Jones. But that wee before he found himself on a lost Ieland of primitive men and prehistoric beests! In hie epic struggle to survive, & the to conquer, Weldo earned a new name and the love of the beeutiful end myeterious princess of the cave Nedara. This Ie the story of "The Cave Girl!" #21106—$.95

THE MONSTER MEN

They called him Number Thirteen. He was the lieel and the most succeeaful of Dr. Von Hom'e attempts to create life out of lifeleae chemicals. He was not a mlahappen, hideous thing like the reaulte of the med doctor's previoue 12 experimenta! Number Thirteen was elmoet human and worthy of the love of a womanl Thrilling adventure! #21031—$1.50

THE PEOPLE THAT TIME FORGOT

When Tom Billings set out to rescue Bowen Tyler from the lost continent of Caprona, he equipped himself with all the weeponry the modern world afforded. But would rifles end platols be enough when faced with the deadly unknown? Plue, photos from the spectecular motion picture! #21034—$1.75

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The beautiful young deughter of a wealthy family ia robbed of her money & jewels. Soon after, ehe herself completely disappeeral A young men fleeing a murderoue band of hobos becomes the target of e lynch mob. From a dark celler in s mysterlous ehrouded house, comes with ponderous step & dragging chains — find out what will be next! #21142—$1.95

TANAR OF PELLUCIDAR

Pellucidar, the hollow center of the Earth Ia a lend of savage men and prehistoric monsteral It's the scene of this breath taking novel...Tanar, a young chieftain had been ceptured by the feal scne Konsns. He made hie escepe, but then found thet between him and safety lay the Buried People and the land of the Awful Shadow!#21036—$1.95

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WAR OF THE WORLDS: Thrill with chills ss Martians invade the Earth! A classic on this long playing LP! #2358—$2.98

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TWO FULL-LENGTH ILLUSTRATED PAPERBACKS

Burma—the woman with a past. She's beautiful, elusive, scheming and charming. This slightly scarlet lady is more than a match for Terry, the pirates of the South China Sea and the Hong Kong Police! This superb 8½" x 11" edition of Milton Caniff's famous newspaper cartoon strip brings you the original adventures! 96 pages! Soft cover! #21219—$6.95

So beautiful & so deadly! The epitome of the legendary femme fatale. She is out to steal America's aircraft designs. And Terry? He must pose as an aircraft designer, plum the merky depths of war torn China and thwart her! A superb 8½" x 11", 96 page softcover of the original newspaper strip by artist Milton Caniff of Terry's adventures! #21220—$6.95

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FOR EXCITING ADVENTURES FROM THE DISCO TO THE OUTER LIMITS OF SPACE!

WARRIOR'S BATTLE PACK

WARRIORS BATTLE PACK: Super durable duck canvas edged in dark brown piping, makes this tan battle pack the perfect way to stow your gear! 13" long & 10" in diameter, this spacious pack is decorated with a gold stitched Warrior's Battle Emblem & brass colored fastener. A 33" long strap allows you to wear off shoulder or as back pack! #26266—$11.95

WARRIOR'S BATTLE JACKET

WARRIOR'S BATTLE JACKET: Super deluxe space jacket of some of your favorite T.V. characters in a ruggedly constructed of light brown denim. Its unique styling and its 100% cotton denim durability make this the perfect family jacket for anywhere wear. Whether it's from the baseball game to the disco, or from the backyard to your own space fantasy, this jacket will get you there warmly and in style! Machine washable and dryable, comes with special patch, emblem, 2 insignia pins, care and handling information and four unique clasps (3 on sizes 4-6X) to complement that unique look of your favorite television heroes!

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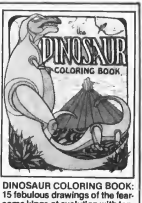

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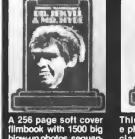

A 256 page soft cover filmbook with 1500 big blow-up photos, sequentially framed. A complete dialogue from original soundtrack. A classic! #21195—$4.95

This photo journal is a phenomenal mystery classic! Giant 12"x9" 256 page soft cover filmbook. Dialogue & over 1400 photos scene by scene! #21125—$4.95

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COMIC BOOK: Limited supply of this rare comedy record! It's a Rock Super-Hero Suite, suited for the straight jacket set! #2337—$5.98

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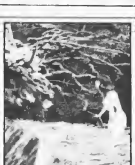
THE SHADOW: "Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men?" Lamont Cranston does! A 1940's mystery-horror masterpiece! #2326—$6.95

SOUNDS TO MAKE YOU SHIVER: It's all here! Howling wind, rattling chains, maniacal laughter & more! Great fun for parties! #2341—$3.25

BERNI WRIGHTSON BOOK AND PORTFOLIO



APPARITIONS: A quartet of Wrighton's most stirring fantasy illustrations are reproduced in this high-quality set of full-color 11x14 inch prints. These superb plates depict scenes of nightmarish sci-fi horror and gripping conflict in Berni Wrightson's own inimitable style. All four prints are suitable for framing and display! #29045—$7.95

THE MUTANTS: A fascinating collection of macabre stories and illustrations by the great Berni Wrightson! 17 pages of his best recent work are also included! #21435—$9.95

STAR WARS

THE MOST EXCITING NEW MODELS AVAILABLE!

NEW!

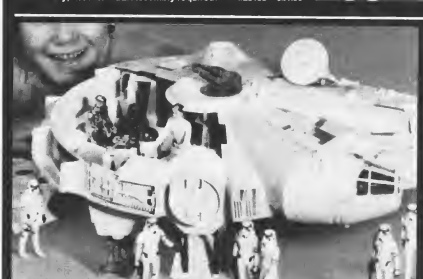
MILLENNIUM FALCON

THE MILLENNIUM FALCON Han Solo's deadly freighter-fighter is reproduced in all the incredible detail lavished on it by its creator John Dykstra. This enormous 18"x13" model has an illuminated detailed control room, movable laser turrets with full interior detail, illuminated rocket exhausts, hinged entrance hatch and ramp, retractable landing gear, moveble rader antenne and the seated figures of Luke Skywalker, Han Solo and Chewbacca! Build this authentic Star Wars design spaceship. 2"C" batteries not included and assembly is required! #24238—$17.95

IMPERIAL TROOP TRANSPORTER

IMPERIAL TROOP TRANSPORTER The electronic "hover-craft" troop transporter of the Imperial Stormtroopers is ready to swoop down on unsuspecting Rebel and Alliance bases! This transporter carries 11 action figures, has 6 special electronic sounds thet simulate the real sounds from Star Wars such as the lasar, engine and battle noises plus the voices of C-3PO, Stormtroopers end R2-D2's beeps! Each sound is activated by its own button. The front hatch opens to reveel a detailed control oree with seats for 2 troopers. The menual laser gun and the rotating radar dish work in tandem. 6 side compertments hold captured prisoners and a rear compartment imprisons droids. This model comes with two prisoner immobilization units thet fit on the hands of action figures so they can be brainwashed by the Empire! This highly detailed kit is molded in high impact grey and red plastic! Order Now! Action figures not included. Uses one "C" battery, not included. Assembly required! #26195—$21.80

NEW!



MILLENNIUM FALCON

OPEN-UP MODEL

MILLENNIUM FALCON SPACESHIP This big, sophisticated, "open up" model of Han Solo's famous Millennium Falcon is a gigantic model thet's a whopping 17"x6"x23"! Pushbutton activates the "battle alert" siren when enemy TIE fighters are in the area. Cockpit has a flip open canopy with seats for Han Solo and Chewbacca. The radar dish manually swivels 360°. This enormous model has retractable landing gear, a folding entrance ramp. Reer deck panel lifts to give access to the rear cabin where table and chairs are ready for a game of space chess. The cabin floor lifts awey to reveal a secret compartment to hide the action figures from searches by the Imperial Stormtroopers. Fit your action figure into the command chair below the laser canon which clicks as it follows enemy craft. The Millennium Falcon has all the detail of the original ship. Action figures are sold seperately. 2" AA" batteries not included. Assembly required! #26194—$37.80

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Collector's Issues! supply is limited!

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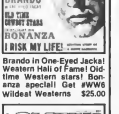

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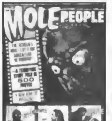

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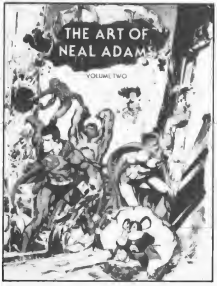

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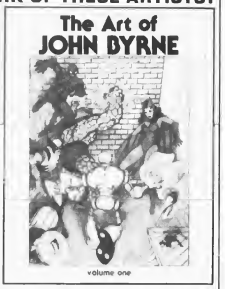

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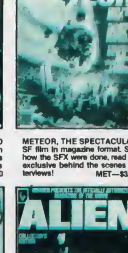

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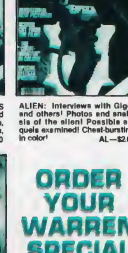

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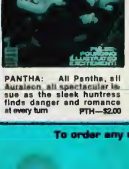

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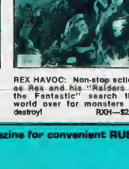

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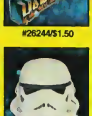

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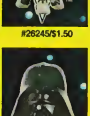

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